



***ISCRAM2009***  
**The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Information Systems for  
Crisis Response and Management**

**Gothenburg, Sweden  
May 10-13, 2009  
<http://www.iscram.org>**

**TRACK: Humanitarian Actions and Operations**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**FOR A SPECIAL SESSION ON**

**Modelling of Humanitarian Operations**

**Session ID:** Humanitarian 4

**Motivation**

Demand for humanitarian operations that seek to alleviate human suffering continue to increase. Forecasts estimate a five-fold increase in the number and impact of natural and manmade disasters over the next 50 years, which will continue to pressure the need for effective humanitarian operations. The magnitude of recent humanitarian mobilization efforts (e.g. Indian Ocean Tsunami, China's Sichuan earthquake, Myanmar cyclone) has generated an outcry for improved logistics in humanitarian operations. For instance, China's massive earthquake alone mobilized the effort of tens of thousands of people and hundreds of humanitarian organizations.

Academics and practitioners recognize that more effective and efficient humanitarian operations have the potential to improve the results of disaster relief efforts. Research modeling aspects of humanitarian operations has the potential to improve performance (the number of people benefiting from operations) and alleviate suffering caused by epidemics, famine, extreme poverty, and natural disasters.

**Topics**

Topics that could contribute to this session include, but are not limited to, modelling humanitarian operations to improve:

- logistics and distribution of basic survival kits in crises affected areas;
- prepositioning of goods in anticipation of needs;
- collaboration among organizations in the field to address common challenges;
- planning and response to large-scale crises; and
- utilization of donor funds.

**Type of contribution:**



Each session should allow academic and practitioner contributions

- **Academic contribution:** we invite researchers from academia or research labs to present their research or research-in-progress papers. Prospective presenters submit a regular research (or research-in-progress) paper.
- **Practitioner contribution:** we invite practitioners to present their practice or experiences in information systems development, use or needs. Prospective presenters submit a short practitioner paper or a Powerpoint presentation along with an abstract.

**Important Notice:**

- All submissions must be formatted according to the ISCRAM 2009 formatting guidelines. Templates and instructions are published on [www.iscram.org](http://www.iscram.org).
- All submissions must be submitted through the ISCRAM 2009 conference paper submission web page at [www.conftool.com/iscram2009](http://www.conftool.com/iscram2009). Instructions for the ConfTool system can be found on [www.iscram.org](http://www.iscram.org).
- All papers and presentations will go through a double-blind review process, leading to a decision of (conditional) acceptance or rejection.
- Accepted papers will be included in the ISCRAM 2009 program and published in the official proceedings if and only if
  - (1) the paper is formatted according to the instructions,
  - (2) the authors sign the copyright transfer form and
  - (3) one of the authors registers for the conference and pays the registration fee before the cut-off date for early registration.
- Authors who have multiple papers accepted can only register for and present one paper at the conference; co-authors need to register separately.

**Session Chair:**



Paulo Gonçalves, [paulo.Goncalves@lu.unisi.ch](mailto:paulo.Goncalves@lu.unisi.ch)

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### **Important ISCRAM 2009 Dates:**

- |                                       |                   |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Submission deadline:                | January 11, 2009  |
| • Notification of conditional accept: | February 16, 2009 |
| • Final submission revised paper:     | March 1, 2009     |
| • Final author notification:          | March 9, 2009     |
| • Early registration deadline:        | March 22, 2009    |
| • Conference:                         | May 10-13 2009    |

### **About ISCRAM:**

The ISCRAM Community is a worldwide community of researchers, scholars, teachers, students, practitioners and policy makers interested or actively involved in the subject of Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management. At its annual international conference alternating between the US and Europe, the ISCRAM Community gathers to present and discuss the latest research and developments in this growing area during an interactive and stimulating 3 day program. The ISCRAM Community also organizes an International Summer School for PhD students and ISCRAM-CHINA, an annual conference for ISCRAM research in China. All information on ISCRAM can be found at <http://www.iscram.org>

This year the conference will be held from 10-13 May at the Göteborg University located in Gothenburg, Sweden. The conference will be hosted by the Viktoria Institute and the IT-university of Gothenburg. All details on this conference will be made available via the ISCRAM website mentioned above.