



**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: Collaboration and Social Networking**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**FOR A SPECIAL SESSION ON**

***LIGHTWEIGHT STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION IN  
EMERGENCY KNOWLEDGE ENGINEERING***

**Session ID:** Collaboration1

**Motivation**

This session investigates how social software can be used: 1) to acquire a more detailed real time information about the emergency requirements by means of citizens online collaboration; 2) to help institutional and non-institutional stakeholders to rapidly define a collaboration infrastructure in order to overcome their organizational and technological heterogeneity. In this session we expect to analyze the processes and the frameworks capable to support the social collaboration in crisis response. We emphasize the usage of "lightweight" technologies that are easy and immediate: to deploy; to understand; to use and to maintain. System can be based, for instance in Wikis, CMS, SMS and MMS messaging, Forum, Blogs, Video management systems, 3D virtual worlds, Internet Messaging systems (like Skype, Google Talk and Windows Live Messenger, etc.) and other web-based social networks.

**Research Area**

Crisis response and management requires a strong collaboration among a wide number of actors that can be named "stakeholders" of the emergency. Such stakeholders comprise: institutions, citizens, enterprises, traders and others unpredictable actors who should be involved in crisis response activities. Often these actors do not share the same Information Technology (IT) infrastructures and are organized in a very different way. Besides the issues related to decision making stakeholders there are also many lacks in the way citizens and volunteers can take part to the emergency response. For instance: implicit knowledge about the territory; specialist professional competencies and feedbacks on the crisis evolution, is a very useful information that is not caught by centralized and closed emergency response systems. A number of social networking platforms can be used to overcome



stakeholders collaboration in crisis management. They are lightweight platforms that provides powerful and easy to use collaborative environments without requiring particular needs to be deployed and used by stakeholders. Systems like wikis, Content Management Systems (CMS) and messaging platforms can be both exploited as structural components of an emergency response infrastructure or defined ad-hoc for a specific emergency. The knowledge about the emergency can be effectively managed by means of these instruments that provide, in a single framework, an architecture unification platform for the institutional stakeholders and an open communication environment for pervasive stakeholders, like citizens and volunteers.

## Topics

Examples of relevant topics for this session include, but are not limited to:

- *Internet-based knowledge gathering and sharing during emergency*
- *Lightweight architectures for heterogeneity defeat (e.g., Internet mashup, service oriented architectures (SOA's), model driven architectures (MDA's), Internet Grid, etc.)*
- *Post-emergency virtual communities building*
- *Collaboration models and infrastructures for crisis response simulation (e.g., agent based models, complex adaptive systems, 3D virtual world real simulations)*
- *Business process modelling of social networks collaborations in emergency*
- *Product-oriented virtual communities for emergency response (e.g., emergency software development teams, fire watching teams, photo reporter teams, etc.)*

## Type of contribution:

- **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 Chairs:**



Luca Abeti – [luca.abeti@imtlucca.it](mailto:luca.abeti@imtlucca.it)

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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.