

**2012 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
ANNUAL MEETING**

***Flattening the World:
Building the 21st Century
Global Knowledge Society***

***Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
February 17th - February 20, 2012***

Title of Symposium: Responding and Recovering from Catastrophic Events – The Road to Resilience

Abstract: Catastrophic events associated with earthquakes, floods, and tsunamis, have dominated the news and harnessed resources from all levels of governments, private sector and non governmental agencies to respond and rapidly recover these past years. Since catastrophic events will continue to occur the issue remains: How do individuals, organizations, business and governments learn from the past, as well as develop better tools and embrace 21st Century technology to improve recovery management efforts and resiliency. On March 11, 2011, a 8.9 magnitude earthquake, followed by a tsunami struck northeast Japan resulting in widespread devastation and a nuclear incident that caused a crisis at a nuclear power station. The Deepwater Horizon oil spill is the largest accidental marine oil spill which began on April 20, 2010, lasting 87 days resulting in impacts spanning environmental, economic, and societal scales. This panel will bring together experts who will speak to the Japan earthquake and ensuing nuclear incident and the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. It will conclude with a presentation on resilience and the emerging resilience framework from both an infrastructure and social systems perspective to enable more rapid recovery from such events. By showcasing real-world events and emerging policy, this panel will highlight the importance of cross disciplinary research, dialogue and knowledge to enhance response and recovery efforts at local, national and international levels.

Lessons learned from catastrophic events to better inform future emergency response and recovery planning, and identify innovative research needed to advance information and knowledge will be of interest to the audience. Identifying innovative approaches to expand and enhance existing practices, institutions, and organizations that help make communities successful every day, and leverage this social infrastructure to help meet community needs during an incident occurs will be of interest.

Moderator: Ann Lesperance, Deputy Director, Regional Programs
Northwest Regional Technology Center for Homeland Security
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Panel Members:

Title: Japan Earthquake, Tsunami and Nuclear Accident – Lessons Learned
Panelist: Kumi Fujisawa Tsunoda , Co-founder and Executive Vice President
Think Tank Sophia Bank, Tokyo, Japan

On March 11, 2011, a major tsunami struck northern Japan after a large earthquake rocked the capital of Tokyo and surrounding areas, leaving a vast path of devastation. Shortly after the earthquake, a huge tsunami wave swept into the Fukushima Daiichi power plant which resulted in explosions and an ongoing radiological crisis. This presentation will highlight the issues and challenges that are still being addressed and the lessons that have been learned to date from this incident.

Title: Translating Lessons from Deepwater Horizon Spill Into Better Response and Restoration
Panelist: Dr. Nancy Kinner; Co-Director of the Coastal Response Research Center
University of New Hampshire

On April 20, 2010 an explosion aboard a deep water oil drilling platform in the Gulf of Mexico resulted in lives lost, petroleum fueled fires, and a release of thousands of metric tons of oil. This impacted the ecosystem, economy, policies, citizens, and politics of the Gulf States and the nation. This presentation will explore the lessons learned from all aspects, including research priorities, of this spill to better inform future emergency response and recovery plans for deepwater drilling.

Title: Whole Community Approach to Emergency Management

Panelist: David Kaufman, Director, Office of Policy and Program Analysis
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Washington, D.C.

The Nation's goal of being prepared for and resilient in the aftermath of disasters calls on the public to be full partners with government, businesses, and a wide range of non-governmental organizations. As the effects of natural and man-made disasters become more far-reaching, and wide-spread, government at all levels must grapple with the limitations of its capabilities. This presentation will frame the resiliency discussion which can enable the more rapid recovery from such events.