SCIENTIFIC PARTNERSHIPS ENABLING RAPID RESPONSE (SPERR)

June 4, 2015
Presentation to the Subcommittee for Disaster Reduction
Roadmap for today

Overview of the SPERR project & approach

Present proposed solution: the Science Action Network

Feedback, Discussion & Questions
How might we enable greater scientific collaboration before, during, and after large environmental crises?
Core Advisory Team

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Implementation Team

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Our Process

- **Ethnography**: 100+ interviews with academics, govt and industry responders, agency staff scientists
- **Concept Generation**: 75+ ideas created with key stakeholders
- **Refinement & Prototyping**: Tested value & function of 10 final ideas through workshops and interviews
- **Implementation Planning**: Securing funding & momentum to launch final solution concept

June 2014

September

January

July 2015

We are here!
“Academics are mostly just talking heads during a spill; they don’t have a role in response.”

[SPERR interview quote from agency responder]
“It’s amazing to me that [government responders] came out of academia, but had no idea how to work with us.”

[SPERR interview quote from academic scientist]
An Effective Solution Must...

Build trust & credibility

Create genuine mutual value & understanding

Catalyze relationships to prepare for the “unknown unknowns”
Science for decision making

Novel, interdisciplinary partnerships

Cross-disaster, cross-sectoral learning
VALUE CREATED FOR RESPONDERS

Increased scientific expertise to minimize uncertainties in planning

Decreased time & stress spent on irrelevant scientific inquiries during response

Access local knowledge & credibility

Cross-hazards learning for social & natural science needs
getValue CREATED FOR ACADEMIC SCIENTISTS

- Strengthened research portfolio
- Improved site, sample, and data access
- New cross-hazard research partnerships and funding opportunities
- Window into decision-making & research applications across hazard types
CURRENT FOCUS

» Refine the Science Action Network
» Build visibility and momentum
» Secure funding and institutional support to launch a 16-month pilot
CONNECT WITH US

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