**Meeting Minutes** **of the Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction**

2 November 2017, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., White House Conference Center Lincoln Room

Italics indicate absent members. “T” indicate members participating via teleconference.

**Co-chairs**

David Applegate (USGS)

Jack Meszaros (OSTP)

**Designated Representatives**

# ASPR Darrin Donato

# BLM Georgette Fogle

# CDC *Mollie Mahany*

# DHS Erin Walsh (T)

# DHS/FEMA *Roy Wright*

# DHS/USCG *Jim Small*

**DOD** *Al Johnson*

**DOE** *Patricia Hoffman*

**DOT** *Sheila Duwadi*

**EOP/OMB** *Michael Clark*

**EOP/OSTP** Jack Meszaros

**EPA** *Greg Sayles*

**FERC** *Marsha Palazzi*

# HUD Dana Bres

# NASA *Craig Dobson*

**NGA** *Kerri Dugan*

# NGB *Steve Mason*

# NIH *Aubrey Miller*

**NIST***Steve Cauffman*

**NOAA**Mary Erickson (T)

**NPS** *Marcy Rockman*

# NSF *Greg Anderson*

**State** Fernando Echavarria (T)

**USACE** Tony Niles

*Dimitra Syriopoulou*

**USAID** *Sezin Tokar*

**USCB** *Laura Furgione*

**USDA** *TBD*

**USFS** *Monica Lear*

*Carlos Rodriguez-Franco*

**USGS** David Applegate

**USNRC** *Edwin Hackett*

**USPHS** *Estella Jones*

**Other Attendees**

**DHS/FEMA** Andy Goldblatt

Jacob Vawter

Jesse Rozelle (T)

**DOD**  Tom Kirsch

**EPA** Keely Maxwell

**GSA** Philip Ashlock

**NASA** Batuhan Osmanoglu  
**NGA** Kevin Dobbs

Ryan Mumford

Christina Roy

**NGB** Chester Guyer  
Jeff Lowe

**NIH** April Bennett

**NIST** Marc Levitan (T)

Steven Cauffman (T)

**NPS** Ann Hitchcock (T)

**EOP/OSTP** Guillermo Mendoza  
**State** Olga Cabello Henry

**STPI** Chris Clavin (T)Robert Rozansky

**USFS** Michael Cherry

**USDA** Glenn Bethel (T)

**USGS** Kishor Jaiswal (T)

Sophia Liu

Charles Mandeville

**USNRC** John Nakoski

Michael Scott

**SDR Secretariat**

Aleeza Wilkins

**Handouts**

* November Meeting Agenda
* Draft October Meeting Minutes

**Agenda**

10:00 Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes

10:05 Co-chairs Report

10:20 Presentation: FEMA P-366 Hazus Report & Modeling Maria Losses

11:00 Briefing: Data.gov Open311

11:20 Data Coordination: Lessons from Harvey, Irma, and Maria

11:55 Close and Next Actions

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction (SDR) Co-chair David Applegate (USGS) called the October meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. in the White House Conference Center Lincoln Room, and participants introduced themselves.

1. **Report from the Co-chairs and Approval of Minutes**

The draft of the minutes for the October monthly meeting was approved with no changes.

Applegate expressed deep appreciation to NOAA for the memorial event held to honor Margaret Davidson, our much-missed former SDR co-chair. Those in attendance paid tribute to her unique character and wit and to her extraordinary contributions to disaster reduction.

The next International Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (IDRRWG) meeting will take place on Thursday, December 7, at 1:00 p.m. in the Lincoln Room of the White House Conference Center. In the interim, IDRRWG co-chair Sezin Tokar received a query from Interaction about US agency participation in the World Urban Forum 9 to be held in Kuala Lampur, Malaysia, in 2018. If your agency will be participating, please email her a point of contact (stokar@usaid.gov).

SDR Co-Chair Jack Meszaros (OSTP) reported on the Global Wildfire Information System side event at the GEO-XIV Plenary in October. NOAA led a presentation on understanding extreme heat, and NASA presented on earth observations and disaster response in 2017. If you would like information about the Global Wildfire Information System activity or the associated database, or if you would like to view the slides, please email Jack Meszaros (Jacqueline\_R\_Meszaros@ostp.eop.gov).

Meszaros also reported on the reach-back request from the National Security Council about implications of long-lasting infrastructure outages in Puerto Rico. OSTP delivered a memo on October 25 and will be meeting with NSC this week. Email or call Meszaros (Jacqueline\_R\_Meszaros@ostp.eop.gov; 202-456-6020) if your agency has additional information regarding the request.

Meszaros is working with the Technology & Innovation for Disaster Preparedness (TIDP) working group on a possible event that would build on a call-to-action paper drafted by the TIDP group. The draft focused on three important concepts. First, the need to aggregate information across platforms, share it, and keep it updated so that response efforts are not duplicated unnecessarily (“no wrong door”); second, the need for more intuitive decision-support products; and third, a federal team needs to take responsibility for those products and deploy them in disasters. In addition to the planned event, Meszaros has secured a commitment from FEMA to run a post-hurricanes hotwash on December 1, 2017 on data coordination issues, providing the SDR community a chance to share lessons learned.

Applegate and Meszaros shared that a number of SDR representatives participated in an exploratory call initiated by the US Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) regarding the impacts on climate research on the recent hurricanes and wildfires. Further discussion about this coordination will take place at OSTP.

1. **Presentation on the FEMA Earthquake Loss Report**.

Jesse Rozelle (FEMA) and Kishor Jaiswal (USGS) presented on a FEMA report issued this spring updating estimates of annualized earthquake losses. This new edition of FEMA P-366, *Hazus Estimated Annualized Earthquake Losses for the United States*, was developed in collaboration with the USGS and incorporates 2010 US Census data, 2014 USGS National Seismic Hazard Models, and site soil characterization data. Losses were estimated by census tract using information about the type of occupancy, building materials, year built, and whether the building is up to code, in order to estimate exposure and the extent of damage and loss for each tract. Jaiswal reported that this methodology estimates national Annualized Earthquake Losses (AEL) of $6.1 billion (2014 dollars, including Puerto Rico). These estimated losses are concentrated in a few geographic areas: the State of California (61% of loss) and overall, the west coast (73% of loss). Fifty-five metropolitan areas (including Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York City, Salt Lake City, and Seattle) account for 80% of the total estimated AEL. The report is available at: https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/132305

1. **Update to FEMA Hazus Hurricane Wind Models for Puerto Rico**

Rozelle also discussed preliminary Hazus Hurricane Wind Model Loss Estimation capabilities. Currently, the Hazus model is only capable of flood and earthquake loss estimation in Puerto Rico, and Rozelle is planning a new study in order to increase this functionality. Specifically, the model needs data development of infrastructure and damage functions.

1. **Briefing on Open311**

Philip Ashlock, Chief Architect of Data.gov, delivered a presentation on Open311, an open communication standard for reporting and requesting information to public services and local government. Open 311 is not a product or software, but a technical standard in which data is freely available. Local communities, like Baltimore and New York City, have created their own versions of app-based 311 services to ask questions and report problems. Data is geospatial, marking locations of requests and reports, as well as temporal, revealing trends in requests types over the course of a day or season. With Open311, multiple cities and apps can follow the same standard in order to avoid duplication of effort. Now, Open311 is used by 35 cities across 10 products in order to visualize existing data or to help users submit new data. Ashlock also discussed Next Generation 911, an effort to increase accuracy of auto-locating mobile 911 callers. Recently, the Coast Guard turned to social media to find those needing rescue when 911 was overloaded. Next Generation 911 could fill the need for a national protocol for using social media for locating and targeting search and rescue efforts.

1. **Adjournment**

Applegate adjourned the SDR November meeting at 12:03 p.m. and noted that the Subcommittee’s next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 7, in the White House Conference Center Lincoln Room.

1. **SDR 2017 Meeting Calendar**

SDR meetings in 2017 will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the dates listed below in the Lincoln Room of the White House Conference Center unless otherwise noted:

**2017**

* Thursday, January 5
* Thursday, February 2
* Thursday, March 2
* Thursday, April 6
* Thursday, May 4
* Thursday, June 1
* Thursday, July 13\*
* Thursday, August 3\*\*
* Thursday, September 7
* Thursday, October 5
* Thursday, November 2
* Thursday, December 7

\* July meeting shifted to the second Thursday of the month to avoid proximity to the Independence Day Federal holiday.

\*\* August meeting subject to cancellation.

1. **Agenda Items and Other Communications with the Subcommittee**

Please send proposed agenda items and any other items intended for distribution to the full Subcommittee to the SDR Secretariat ([SDR@usgs.gov](mailto:SDR@usgs.gov)).

1. **Contact Information**

**SDR Leadership**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| David Applegate | Co-chair | 703-648-6600 | applegate@usgs.gov |
| Jack Meszaros | Co-chair | 202-456-6020 | Jacqueline\_R\_Meszaros@ostp.eop.gov |

**Executive Secretariat**

SDR@usgs.gov

1. **Summary of October Actions**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action** | **Lead** | **By When** |
| The next SDR meeting will be held on Thursday, December 7, in the White House Conference Center Lincoln Room. | SDR Members | For Information |
| Email or call Jack Meszaros (Jacqueline\_R\_Meszaros@ostp.eop.gov; 202-456-6020) if your agency has additional information regarding the NSC request on implications of long-term infrastructure outages in Puerto Rico. | SDR Members | ASAP |
| If your agency will be participating in the World Urban Forum 9 in Kuala Lampur in 2018, please email Sezin Tokar (stoker@usaid.gov) with a point of contact. | SDR Members | ASAP |
| If you would like information about the GEO-XIV hazards-focused side event presentations, please email Jack Meszaros (Jacqueline\_R\_Meszaros@ostp.eop.gov). | SDR Members | For Information |
| Send additional disaster-related priorities from your agency for consideration in the new Administration to the SDR Secretariat (SDR@usgs.gov) on a rolling basis. | SDR Members | Standing |
| Send Dave Applegate an email (applegate@usgs.gov) if you are interested in contributing to the work of the SDR and would like additional documentation or an agency-specific letter. | SDR Members | Standing |
| Email the SDR Secretariat (SDR@usgs.gov) to suggest external DRR stakeholder groups to invite to present at quarterly SDR meetings on behalf of the U.S. National Platform for UNISDR. | SDR Members | Standing |