



## FP6 – Priority 2.3.2.9 Improving Risk Management Integrated Project

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Managed by :	Edith WILKINSON Jean-François GALLET	Cranfield University EADS DS SA	26/09/05
Checked by:	Jean-François GALLET	EADS DS SA	26/09/05
Approved by:	Jean-François GALLET	EADS DS SA	26/09/05
Released by:	Martine COUTURIER	EADS DS SA	26/09/05

### Project Coordinator

Company name EADS DS SA  
Name of representative Martine COUTURIER  
Address 6 rue Dewoitine, BP 14  
F-78142 Vélizy Villacoublay Cedex FRANCE  
Phone number +33 (0)1 34 63 73 51  
E-mail [martine.couturier@eads.com](mailto:martine.couturier@eads.com)  
Project WEB site <http://www.oasis-fp6.org/>



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OASIS Terms and  
Acronyms

### Document Status Sheet

Version	Date	Details
1.0	26/09/05	Creation of the document starting from all the glossaries found in the various OASIS documents, from the C3I sub project glossary and from the glossary of terms and concepts created by the Cranfield University



## Contents of the document

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## 1 GOAL OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document provides :

- The OASIS glossary of the terms and words which are used in the emergency and disaster domain,
- The list and the meaning of the acronyms which are used in the different OASIS documents.

This document is continuously improved according to the content of the documents.

## 2 ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

.NET	The Microsoft framework for the implementation of a service oriented architecture. Its counter-part in Java is J2EE
API	Application Programming Interface
AWT	Abstract Windowing Toolkit (a basic toolkit for developing human machine interfaces inside Java applications). Cf. also Swing and SWT
C3	Command Control and Communication
CAD	Computer Aided Dispatch
CCIR	Consultative Committee for International Radio
CDMA	Code Division Multiple Access
CDROM	Compact Disk - Read Only Memory
CECIS	Common Communications- and Information System for accidents between Community mechanism and States
CEMEC	Centre Europeen pour la MEdecine des Catastrophes located in San Marino Republic who defined a glossary of medical terms.
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CIMS	Crisis Information Management Software
CLIFF	CLuster Initiative for Flood and Fire emergencies
CMS	Crisis Management System
COE	Common Operating Environment
CORBA	Common Object Request Broker Architecture
COTS	Commercial Off-The-Shelf
CTIF	The International fire fighters association
DB	Data Base
DBMS	Data Base Management System
DCV	Decision-centred visualisation
DDSC	Direction de la Défense et de la Sécurité Civile (French national authority for the civil protection)
DEM	Disaster and Emergency Management
DEO	Disaster and Emergency Operations
DG-ENV	European Commission Directorate-General of Environment
EDGE	Enhanced Data rates for GSM Evolution
EGERIS	European Generic Emergency Response Information
EO	Emergency Operation
ETS	Emergency Tactical Situation
ETSI	European Telecommunication Standards Institute
EU	European Union
FDMA	Frequency Division Multiple Access



FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FP6	Framework Program 6
FTP	File Transfer Protocol
GIS	Geographic Information System
GMES	Global Monitoring for Environment and Security
GPRS	General Packet Radio Service
GPS	Global Positioning System
GSM	Global system for Mobile communication
HF	High frequency (a frequency of 3 - 30 MHz)
Hibernate	A Java framework used for the persistence of business objects in DBMS (cf. also JDO)
HMD	Helmet Mounted Display
HMI	Human Machine Interface
HQ	Head Quarter
HTTP	Hyper Text Transfer Protocol
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDER	International Disaster And Emergency Readiness Conference
IETF	Internet Engineering Task Force
IHMS	In-vehicle Hazard Management Systems
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IP	Internet Protocol
IP-SEC	Internet Protocol Security
ISO	International Standardisation Organisation
IT	Information Technology
J2EE	The Java framework for the implementation of a service oriented architecture. Its counter-part in the Microsoft environment is .NET
JDO	Java Data Objects. A Java framework used for the persistence of business objects in DBMS (cf. also Hibernate)
LAN	Local Area Network
LDAP	Lightweight Directory Access Protocol
MIC	The European Commission Monitoring and Information Centre
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Committee
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NMS	Network Management Station
NRBC	Nuclear, Radiological, Bacteriological and Chemical
OASIS	Open Advanced System for Crisis Management (the current project)
OASIS	Organisation for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards. OASIS is a not-for-profit, international consortium that drives the development, convergence, and adoption of e-business standards. Cf. <a href="http://www.oasis-open.org">http://www.oasis-open.org</a>
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of United Nations
OGC	Open GIS Consortium
OS	Operating System
OSI	Open System Interconnect
PDA	Personal Digital Assistant
PMR	Professional (or Private) Mobile Radio
PNG	Portable Network Graphics
POS	Pre-Operational System
PSTN	Public Switched Telephone Network
QoS	Quality of Service
RDBMS	Relational Data Base Management System



Relief Web	Project of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OCHA
RFC	Request For Comments
RIB	Swedish Rescue Service Agency's Decision Support System (Räddningsverkets Integrerade Beslutstöd)
SHQ	
SIP	Session Initiation Protocol
SMCP	Standard Maritime Communication Phrases
SMTP	Simple Mail Transfer Protocol
SNMP	Simple Network Management Protocol
SOA	Service Oriented Architecture
SOAP	Simple Object Access Protocol
SP	Sub-project. An OASIS term for a broad set of functionalities
SRD	System Requirement Document
SWING	A rich toolkit for developing human machine interfaces in Java. It is part of the standard Java development toolkit. Cf. also AWT and SWT
SWT	Standard Widget Toolkit. A rich toolkit for developing human machine interfaces in Java, proposed by the Eclipse project. Cf. also AWT and Swing
TA	OASIS Transverse Activity
TBD	To Be Defined
TCP	Transmission Control Protocol
TSO	The emergency Tactical Situation Object
UDDI	Universal Description, Discovery and Integration
UDP	User Datagram Protocol
UHF	Ultra High Frequency (a frequency of 300 - 3000 MHz)
UKFSSART	UK Fire Services Search and Rescue Team
UML	Unified Modelling Language
UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination
UR	Users' Requirement
URD	User Requirement Document
USB	Universal Serial Bus
UTC	Universal Time (note that the 'C' character does not mean anything)
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator
VHF	Very High Frequency (a frequency of 30 - 300 MHz)
VoIP	Voice over IP
VPF	Vector Product Format
VPN	Virtual Private Network
VTC	Video Tele Conference
WAN	Wide Area Network
WBS	Work Breakdown Structure
WCDMA	Wideband Code Division Multiple Access
WGS	World Geodetic System
WLAN	Wireless Local Area Network
WSDL	Web Service Description Language
XML	eXtended Mark-up Language

### 3 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

	DEFINITION	SOURCE
Activity	An activity is a description of what have to be done in a relative time interval, in order to face up a generic event and it cannot have a spatial collocation. In order to fulfil the activity, it will possible to use a set of resource type	
Alarm	Signal of danger.	<i>Adapted from: Internationally agreed glossary of basic terms related to Disaster management, UN- Department of Humanitarian Affairs DHA- December 1992</i>
Asset	Objects that a team can use in order to execute a task	
Common Operating Picture	A single database of relevant crisis information shared by OASIS users. This database is updated in real time. It is based on an extendable data model that allows new entity types to be added over the years while keeping a degree of compatibility with the (older) interfaces of OASIS users.	
Disaster	A serious disruption of the functioning of society, causing widespread human, material or environmental losses, which exceed the ability of affected society to cope using only its own resources. Disasters are often classified according to their cause (natural or man-made).	<i>Source :Internationally agreed glossary of basic terms related to Disaster management, UN- Department of Humanitarian Affairs DHA- December 1992</i>
Disaster & Emergency management	The organization and management of resources and responsibilities for dealing with all aspects of disasters and emergencies, in particular throughout the pre-impact, emergency and restoration activities. Disaster and emergency management involves plans, structures and arrangements established to engage the normal endeavours of government, voluntary and private agencies in a comprehensive and coordinated way to respond to the whole spectrum of emergency needs.	<i>Adapted from: Terminology: Basic terms of disaster risk reduction, UN-International Strategy for Disaster Reduction ISDR, Online Reference, <a href="http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng_home.htm">http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng_home.htm</a></i>

	<b>DEFINITION</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>
Emergency	A sudden and usually unforeseen event that calls for immediate measures to minimise its adverse consequences.	<i>(Source: Internationally agreed glossary of basic terms related to Disaster management, UN- Department of Humanitarian Affairs DHA- December 1992)</i>
Event	An event is a natural disaster or an human accident that we want to face up and to manage using OASIS	
Mitigation	Measures taken in advance of a disaster aimed at decreasing or eliminating its impact on society and environment.	<i>(Source: Internationally agreed glossary of basic terms related to Disaster management, UN- Department of Humanitarian Affairs DHA- December 1992)</i>
Planning	The process of making arrangements and/or plans for a future activity or a possible occurrence.	
Preparation	<i>Short-term actions taken to reduce the impact of impending disasters.</i> Preparedness describes the state of readiness following the preparation measures.	<i>Adapted from RD 18:D. Alexander, Principles of Emergency Planning and Management, Terra Publishing, England, 2002, p.316]</i>
Prevention	Activities designed to provide permanent protection from disasters. It includes physical and non-physical protective measures.	<i>Adapted from: Internationally agreed glossary of basic terms related to Disaster management, UN- Department of Humanitarian Affairs DHA- December 1992</i>
Real event	A “real event” is an occurred event. An example could be the radioactive escape from Chernobyl in 1986	

	<b>DEFINITION</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>
Reconstruction	Actions taken to re-establish a community after a period of restoration subsequent to a disaster.	<i>Adapted from:</i> <i>Internationally agreed glossary of basic terms related to Disaster management, UN-Department of Humanitarian Affairs DHA- December 1992</i>
Recovery	Decisions and actions taken after a disaster with a view to restoring or improving the pre-disaster living conditions of the stricken community, while encouraging and facilitating necessary adjustments to reduce disaster risk.	<i>Adapted from: Terminology:</i> <i>Basic terms of disaster risk reduction, UN-International Strategy for Disaster Reduction ISDR, Online Reference,</i> <a href="http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng-home.htm">http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng-home.htm</a>
Resource	Team or asset	
Response	The provision of assistance or intervention during or immediately after a disaster to meet the life preservation and basic subsistence needs of those people affected. It can be of an immediate, short-term, or protracted duration.	<i>(Source: Terminology: Basic terms of disaster risk reduction, UN-International Strategy for Disaster Reduction ISDR, Online Reference,</i> <a href="http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng-home.htm">http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng-home.htm</a> )
Restoration	The action of returning something to a former condition.	<i>Adapted from: The Oxford Dictionary of English. Ed. Catherine Soanes and Angus Stevenson. Oxford University Press, 2003. Oxford Reference Online. Oxford University Press.</i> <a href="http://www.oxfordreference.com/">http://www.oxfordreference.com/</a> )
Risk Assessment	A methodology to determine the nature and extent of risk by analysing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that could pose a potential threat or harm to people, property, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend.	<i>(Source: Terminology: Basic terms of disaster risk reduction, UN-International Strategy for Disaster Reduction ISDR, Online Reference,</i> <a href="http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng-home.htm">http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng-home.htm</a> )



	<b>DEFINITION</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>
Task	A task is a description of what have to be done in a specific time interval, in order to face up a real event. In addition, a task could be located in a place. In order to fulfil the task, it will possible to use a specific resource	
Team	Group of people working in the field during the execution of a task	
Warning	Dissemination of message signalling imminent hazard which may include advice on protective measures	<i>(Source :Internationally agreed glossary of basic terms related to Disaster management, UN- Department of Humanitarian Affairs DHA- December 1992)</i>



## 4 REFERENCES

	UNITED NATIONS -International Strategy for Disaster Reduction – UN ISDR- Terminology: Basic terms of disaster risk reduction, Online Reference updated March 2004. Location: <a href="http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng_home.htm">http://www.unisdr.org/eng/library/lib-terminology-eng_home.htm</a>
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