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| The International Teleocmmunication Union - Connecting the World. | | **International telecommunication union**  **Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** | |  |
|  | | | Geneva, 16 July 2021 | |
| **Ref:** | **TSB Circular 334 FG-AI4NDM/MM** | | **To:**  - Administrations of Member States of the Union;  - ITU-T Sector Members;  - ITU-T Associates;  - ITU Academia | |
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| **E-mail:** | [tsbfgai4ndm@itu.int](mailto:tsbfgai4ndm@itu.int) | | **Copy to:**  - The Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of ITU-T Study Groups;  - The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;  - The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau | |
| **Subject:** | **Third workshop and meeting of ITU/WMO/UNEP Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4NDM), 30 August-2 September 2021** | | | |

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is my pleasure to inform you that the third workshop on AI for Natural Disaster Management will take place virtually on **30 August 2021**, *1000-1600 hours CEST*. This workshop will be followed by the third virtual meeting of the Focus Group on Artificial Intelligence for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4NDM), on **31 August-2 September 2021** (*1330-1600 hours CEST*).

# 1 Background

The ITU/WMO/UNEP [Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4NDM)](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm) explores the potential of leveraging AI for understanding natural hazards, improving modeling across spatiotemporal scales, and providing effective communication.

This Focus Group was established by ITU-T Study Group 2 at its meeting on 18 December 2020. Ms Monique Kuglitsch (Fraunhofer HHI) is the Chair of this Focus Group and is supported by Ms Elena Xoplaki (Justus Liebig University Giessen), Mr Jürg Luterbacher (World Meteorological Organization), Mr Muralee Thummarukudy (UN Environment), Ms Rakiya Abdullahi Babamaaji (National Space Research and Development Agency, Government of Nigeria), Mr Srinivas Chaganti (Department of Telecommunications, Government of India) and Ms Yan Chuan Wang (China Telecommunications Corporation), who serve as FG‑AI4NDM Vice-Chairs.

The current FG-AI4NDM structure is as follows:

1. **Working Group on Data for AI (WG-Data)**

* ***Chair(s):*** Allison Craddock (Jet Propulsion Laboratory - NASA) and Rustem Arif Albayrak (NASA Headquarters)

1. **Working Group on AI for Modeling (WG-Modeling)**

* ***Chair(s):*** Jackie Ma (Fraunhofer HHI) and Andrea Toreti (Joint Research Centre - European *Commission*)

1. **Working Group for Mapping AI-related Activities in Natural Disaster Management (WG-Roadmap)**

* ***Chair(s):*** David Oehmen (UNFCCC)

1. **Working Group on AI for Communications (WG-Communications)**

* ***Chair(s):*** TBD

The first virtual workshop and meeting of FG-AI4NDM was held on 15-17 March 2021, during which the  
FG-AI4NDM working structure, an initial roadmap of expected deliverables, related working methods, and future meeting plans were established.

The second virtual workshop and meeting of FG-AI4NDM took place on 23-25 June 2021 to advance on the Topic Groups and discuss new use case proposals.

Currently, FG-AI4NDM has seven Topic Groups:

* AI for Flood Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Geodetic Enhancements to Tsunami Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Landslide Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Multihazard Communications Technologies
* AI for Snow Avalanche Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Volcanic Eruption Forecasting
* AI for Wildfire Monitoring and Detection

# 2 Third workshop of the Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management

The third **workshop on AI for Natural Disaster Management** will take place on **30 August 2021** at **1000‑1600 hours CEST.** The workshop will explore ways that AI can help better understand natural hazards, enhance modeling across spatiotemporal scales, and facilitate effective communication in the event of a natural disaster. The workshop will consist of four sessions. First, a session of high-level keynote presentations will set the stage. This will be followed by three sessions of high-calibre technical presentations and discussions that will enable the participants to delve deeper into this topic. The workshop programme along with the registration details will be made available on the [FG-AI4NDM webpage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm).

# 3 Third meeting of the Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management

The meeting is scheduled to take place on **31 August–2 September 2021**, **1330-1600 CEST** (each day). The draft agenda along with the meeting documents, and additional information on how to participate in the meeting and workshop will be available on the [FG-AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm).   
The main objective of this third meeting is to discuss new incoming use case proposals that underscore how AI can be used to detect, forecast, and communicate natural hazards and disasters.   
The meeting also aims to further the work within the various Topic Groups and deliverables of the Working Groups.

**Written contributions** are invited to progress the work of the Topic Groups, propose additional use cases, and advance on the Working Group deliverables. The written contributions should be submitted to the TSB Secretariat (tsbfgai4ndm@itu.int) in electronic format using the templates available from the [FG-AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm). A template will be provided on the [FG-AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm) for submitting use case proposals. **The contribution deadline for the third meeting is 18 August 2021**.

# 4 Registration and Participation Information

The workshop will be conducted on [Zoom](https://itu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LHsx1j2oQa2__rpZMFZuzA). This workshop will be followed by the third meeting of FG-AI4NDM on the [MyMeetings](https://www.itu.int/myworkspace/#/MyMeetings) Platform. **Separate registration is required for the workshop and meeting**. The discussions will be held in English only.

Participation in FG-AI4NDM is free of charge and open to individual experts and organizations from all sectors and relevant disciplines, including geosciences, disaster risk reduction, disaster mitigation, artificial intelligence/machine learning (AI/ML), and other areas of information and communication technologies. Experts from all regions, particularly developing countries, including least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS), are encouraged to contribute to this work.

Anyone interested in following or participating in this work is invited to subscribe to a dedicated mailing-list; details on how to subscribe can be found at: <http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm-quicksteps>. Each Working Group and Topic Group also have specific mailing-lists on which relevant information relating to their activities is regularly circulated.

Participants are invited to register online via the [FG‑AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm) as soon as possible. Note that registration is mandatory to attend the workshop and meeting.

The [FG-AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm) will be regularly updated as new or additional information becomes available. Participants are invited to check periodically for new updates.

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| 18 August 2021 | Submit written contributions (by e-mail to [tsbfgai4ndm@itu.int](mailto:tsbfgai4ndm@itu.int)) |
| 20 August 2021 | Pre-registration for third workshop online at <https://itu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LHsx1j2oQa2__rpZMFZuzA>  Pre-registration for third meeting of FG-AI4NDM online at <https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/registration.aspx?Event=C-00010254> |

I wish you a productive and enjoyable event.

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| Yours faithfully,  Chaesub Lee Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau | Qr code  Description automatically generatedLatest meeting information |