

# Report on Disaster and Crisis Management ICT Symposium 2017

**Eimatsu Moriyama**

Managing expert

Planning Office, Applied Electromagnetic Research Institute,  
National Institute of Information and Communications Technology

On February 2, the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) together with the ICT Forum for Security and Safety (Chairman: Prof. Hajime Fukuchi, Tokyo Metropolitan University) held the “Disaster and Crisis Management ICT Symposium 2017: Information Gathering and Distribution during Disaster,”<sup>\*1</sup> at the Pacifico Yokohama Annex Hall. This symposium was positioned as a seminar in conjunction with the “21st Earthquake Countermeasures Expo Yokohama,” held on the same day, to introduce ICT for realizing a safer, more secure society, and to collect ideas from the participants. This was the tenth time the symposium has been held since 2007.

The day began with greetings by Forum Chairman Prof. Hajime Fukuchi and by MIC Research Promotion Office Director Kazunori Echigo, which were followed by six lectures. It was attended by approximately 130 participants from local governments, government disaster prevention agencies, universities and disaster prevention equipment manufacturers. The theme of the symposium was “Information and communication during disaster.”

Mr. Kubota’s lecture featured a demonstration of VoiceTra<sup>2</sup> customized for emergency responders, while Mr. Miura and Mr. Uratsuka introduced some of the latest research results from NICT initiatives. All of the lectures were aimed at all attendees, and not just the technical specialists. There were many questions from the broad range of interests of attendees, such as the effects of the results, costs of deploying them, and what support structures were needed. Survey results were also positive, mentioning the broad range of lectures and easy to understand hand-outs, and many were looking forward to plans from the panel discussion.

Many people interested in earthquake countermeasures attended the Earthquake Countermeasures Expo, so it was a perfect opportunity to hold this symposium on current disaster and crisis management technology. We hope to hold this symposium, coordinating with the content of the Earthquake Countermeasures Expo, again in the future as well.

\*1 Symposium Web site: <http://ictfss.nict.go.jp/yokohama2017/index.html>

\*2 VoiceTra is a multilingual speech translation application.

Web site: <http://voicetra.nict.go.jp/en/index.html>

## Disaster and Crisis Management ICT Symposium 2017 – Information Gathering and Distribution during Disaster – Program

Date/Time: February 2, 2017 (Thu.) 10:30-16:00

Location: Pacifico Yokohama Annex Hall F205

Sponsors: NICT, ICT Forum for Security and Safety

Co-sponsor: Research Promotion Council of Keihanna Information Communication Open Laboratory

MC: Prof. Nobuhiro Takahashi (ICT Forum for Security and Safety, Sensing Technology Division Chair; Nagoya University)

Time	Description
10:30	Greetings ICT Forum for Security and Safety Chairman: Hajime Fukuchi, Tokyo Metropolitan University
10:35	Guest Greeting MIC Global ICT Strategy Bureau, Technology Policy Division, Research Promotion Office Director, Kazunori Echigo
10:40	Lecture 1 “Supporting ‘Reporting’” NICT Social Innovation Unit, Resilient ICT Research Center Basic Research Laboratory Senior Researcher, Masaki Shiraiwa
11:20	Lecture 2 “Multi-layered Disaster Information Distribution using Various Communication and Broadcast Media” NTT Data Corp., Second Public Sector Unit, Disaster Prevention Solutions Manager, Hiroshi Sakurauchi
(Lunch)	
13:00	Lecture 3 “Work on Radio Issues in Unmanned Aircraft Systems for use During Disasters” NICT Wireless Networks Research Center, Executive Researcher Ryu Miura
13:40	Lecture 4 “Supporting Mobility during Disasters by Integrating Diverse Data” Tohoku University Graduate School of Information Sciences Professor, Masao Kuwahara
14:20	Lecture 5 “Gathering and Distributing Information from Injured Foreigners -- A multi-lingual speech translation applet for emergency responders --” National Research Institute of Fire and Disaster Earthquake and Natural Disaster Laboratory, Director Katsuaki Kubota
(Break)	
15:15	Lecture 6 “Assessing Damage Conditions at the Kumamoto Earthquake using Airborne SAR” NICT Applied Electromagnetic Research Institute, Managing Director Seiho Uratsuka
15:55	Closing Remarks NICT, Vice President Mizuhiko Hosokawa



Prof. Takahashi  
MC



Chairman Fukuchi  
Greeting



MIC Research  
Promotion Director  
Echigo Greeting



Mr. Shiraiwa  
Lecture



Mr. Sakurauchi  
Lecture



Mr. Miura  
Lecture



Prof. Kuwahara  
Lecture



Mr. Kubota  
Lecture



Mr. Uratsuka  
Lecture



VP Hosokawa  
Closing



Symposium venue