

## The 9th International Conference on Integrated Disaster Management (INDM 2018)

The 9th International Conference on Integrated Disaster Management (INDM 2018), sponsored by Tehran Disaster Mitigation and Management Organization (TDMMO) and City Develop and Innovation Company (Citidi) was held in Tehran.

In 2018, the Austrian Embassy cooperated closely with INDM secretariat to organize this event which was held on 25-26 Feb 2018 in TDMMO.

What made this conference different was partnership of this organization which being held in TDMMO.

A partnership which indicates turning the idea of public-private partnership into reality! This event actually reflects the TDMMO's confidence in the private sector encouraging it to embrace engagement of diverse stakeholders in the field of disaster management.

This approach, refers to bridging the gap between public and private sectors which can be considered perhaps as the most significant and distinctive achievement of INDM over the past nine years. At least Tehran will witness its results in the coming years.

The Austria's support in the form of scientific cooperation for this conference, implicitly defines disaster-related issues as a possible area of inter-governmental cooperation which is a new as well as invaluable collaborative model.

This model can be used to employ the cross-border facilities in controlling and managing crises with large scale event which creates "International Disaster Management Diplomacy" as a news topic.

It is worth noting that the 9th International Conference on Integrated Disaster Management hosts guests from Iran, Austria, Switzerland, Japan, Bangladesh and Thailand.

The first morning of the 9th INDM was dedicated to policy and decision makers to which a number of high-ranking managers in the field of disaster management attended. In this section, Dr. Ahmad Sadeghi, head of Tehran Disaster Mitigation and Management Organization (TDMMO), gave a speech on the importance of the role of the private sector in disaster management cycle.

Then, Mr. Norbert Fuerstenhofer, as one of the founders of the International Advisory Group on Search and Rescue (INSARAG), described the stages of formation of this group and outlined its activities and aims. He further explained his experiences in the earthquakes occurred in Erivan, Bam as well as 2004 Tsunami in Thailand.

In the following section, Dr. Reza Haji Alibeigi, CEO of City Development and Innovation Company which is member of MCR-Campaign, described the application of software and hardware in the future of disaster management with dual banking solutions (normal –disaster situation).

He also introduced the "I am alive" app, which plays a significant role in providing necessary services to the affected communities and urban area.

On the sidelines of this conference, a Mobile data centre system, a mobile Irancell's transmitter with the ability to cover one municipality district in Tehran and a mobile ATM machine which can provide banking services at the disaster time without the need for additional facilities, were exhibited as samples of hardware and software which can change the Definition of disaster management in the near future.

At the end of the first part of this conference, the three top designers of this field received the 5th International Disaster Management Award (IDMA). This Award which was prepared and organized by the INDM Secretariat, Mashhad Municipal disaster Management and financial support of National Disaster Management Organization is becoming the equivalent of other Awards such as Sasakawa Award and Risk Award.

In the second part of this two-day international conference which was designed for Iranian experts, different papers were presented by some well-known Iranian and international academics. Additionally six workshops were held by different experts with different terms.