A German perspective on current challenges in civil protection

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German national meteorological service
Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD)

- German national meteorological service
- 2400 staff, 350 Mio € budget

Among its main tasks:

- "...protection of life and property from weather and climate-related risks"
- "...to issue official severe weather warnings"
- "...to secure aviation and nautical operations"
- "...to monitor radioactivity levels in the atmosphere"
Global risk landscape 2017

- Climate change
- Extreme weather
- Natural disasters

- Impact
- Likelihood

Civil protection in Germany

Civil protection (national-level)
- Self defense
- CBRN protection
- Terrorist attacks
- Critical infrastructures
- Protection of cultural assets
- ...

Emergency management (state-level)
- Severe weather
- Flooding
- Forest fires

Emergency management (district/community)
- Fire brigades
- Medical emergencies
- Local state of emergency
Multi-actor challenge in DRR

Multi-tier organisation of civil protection
- **16** federal states
- **294** districts
- **11,054** communities
- **countless** agencies with national or regional responsibilities
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**Challenge #1**
National platform with a strong mandate is required to force all actors to cooperate!
Communication of warnings

- DWD „WarnWetter“ app
  - Severe weather warnings
  - context information (radar, model fields, point forecasts...)
  - 5 Mio installations since 6/2015
  - 4.6 / 5 rating
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Challenge#2
Cooperate with the private sector, but do not surrender vital governmental tasks!
Integration of multi-hazard warnings

- Multi-hazard = Multi-actor
  - Other responsible authorities (national, local)
- e.g. flood warnings
  - Issued by 16 federal authorities
  - Aggregated display in 1 App with push service!

WarnWetter App
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**Challenge #3**
Good information flow through standardisation in data is necessary!

**Challenge #4**
Communicate and employ risk information with the same voice
Cascading warnings

Challenge #5

Good risk and damage information is necessary for risk mapping, warning and recovery!
Basis of “build back better”

- **standardized reporting and collection of data** on damage and vulnerabilities
- **common metrics** for resilience and recovery (the "better" in BBB)
- repeated call to build a **strong national platform** with a solid mandate!
- streamlined **cooperation** in multi-actor environments
- **Single-voice message** in risk and warning usage
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**Bonus challenge**

Address climate change and adaption, but do not forget: the actual damage is not due to climate, but weather!
Thank you for your attention!

ご清聴ありがとうございました

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