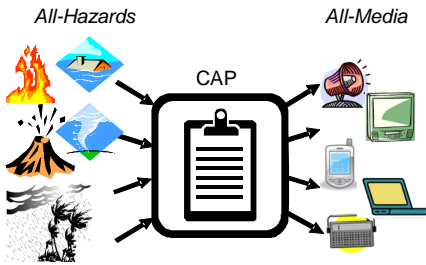


The international standard Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) [\[intro video\]](#)



Historically, emergency alert messages were just text, composed like a news story. Such unstructured messages make sense for in-person communication, but not for automated communication. Without the CAP emergency messaging standard, all-hazard public alerting was not possible.

CAP is simple, yet able to convey the Key Facts:

- about any kind of emergency (Weather, Fires, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Landslides, Child Abductions, Disease Outbreaks, Air Quality, Transportation, Power Outages ...)
- over any and all media (television, radio, telephone, fax, cell phones, highway signs, e-mail, Web sites, news feeds, Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, smart phone apps...)

CAP is a kind of "standard form" with fill-in boxes and check boxes for details of the alert. Alerting authorities typically implement CAP as an add-on feature to their emergency alerting processes.

Re-publishers monitor these Internet news feeds with CAP alerts, helping disseminate warnings to people in the alerting areas. CAP re-publishers include Google, WMO, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, among others.

An example CAP alert for an actual volcanic eruption is shown in [this 1.5 minute video](#).

[\[training video\]](#)
[CAP for Broadcasters](#)

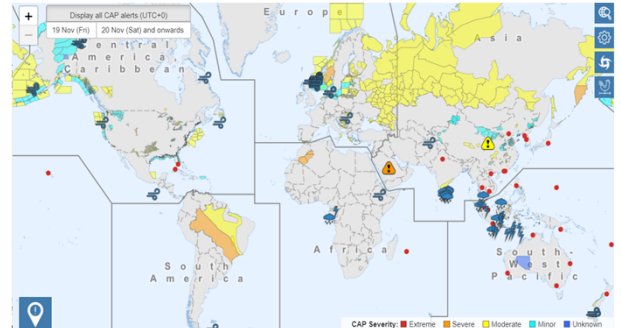


Freeware: CAP Editor <https://cap.alert-hub.org>

Any alerting authority can implement CAP at no cost, and with nothing to install. "CAP Editor" is a free tool for CAP alert creation and publishing. It is already initialized for 370+ alerting authorities. Anyone is welcome to try out this tool as a "Guest". But, only the head of an official alerting authority can designate persons who will login with a password to create and publish official CAP alerts.

CAP Alert Hubs e.g., [WMO Alert Hub](#), [WMO SWIC](#), [IFRC Alert Hub](#)

Any system that gets CAP alerts from more than a few sources needs a way to combine alerts across many news feeds. Just as an Internet search engine helps users find online resources, a CAP Alert Hub helps users get just the CAP alerts they want. For instance, a civic authority needs to get all published alerts, while a private citizen may want only the high-priority alerts. Also, although each CAP alert is a kind of news story, not all alert news feeds are official sources. A CAP Alert Hub lets receivers choose only alerts from sources registered in [the international Register of Alerting Authorities](#), maintained by WMO.



Implemented on any Internet cloud, a CAP Alert Hub is highly reliable, highly available, and fast enough that an alert can reach online users in seconds. This speed is crucial for sudden threats such as tornadoes, earthquakes, and tsunamis, where seconds can mean the difference between warnings that are life-saving and warnings that arrive too late.

The 'UN Early Warnings for All' Action Plan

The UN 'Early Warnings for All' Action Plan launched at COP-27 with the objective to ensure every person on Earth is protected by an early warning system in the next five years. One of its specific Actions is to "Establish CAP editor and Alert Hub to further enhance multi-hazard CAP based emergency alerting".

The free cloud-based Alert Hub now aggregates alerts from 199 CAP alert feeds, published by 131 countries/territories and other sources. The free, cloud-based CAP Editor is in operational use by 53 countries/territories that publish 96 of those CAP alert feeds.



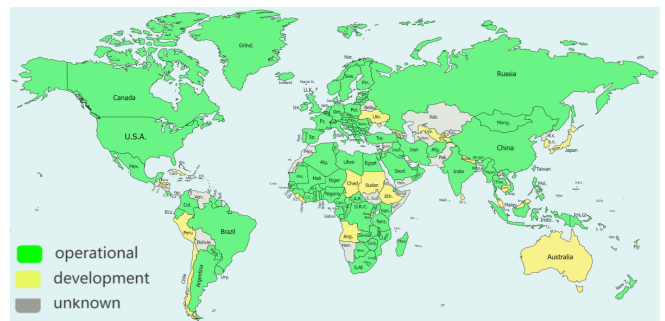
The Call to Action on Emergency Alerting

Today, 92% of the world's population lives in a country that already publishes a CAP news feed at national-level (green on the map), or is now implementing that (yellow).

International organizations, international NGOs, and international companies involved in emergency alerting are urged to endorse the Call to Action on Emergency Alerting:



To scale up efforts to ensure that by 2025 all countries have the capability for effective, authoritative emergency alerting that leverages the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), suitable for all media and all hazards.



Alert-Hub.Org



Eliot Christian is a pro bono consultant to various organizations and CEO of the non-profit Alert-Hub.Org CIC (Community Interest Organization). He operates WMO Alert Hub on behalf of the United States. He consults on CAP and conducts training for IFRC, ITU, UNDRR, WBU, WMO and USAID (Agency for International Development). Since 2001, Eliot has been developing and promoting CAP, internationally and in nations worldwide.

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