



European Centre
for Disaster Medicine



UNIVERSITY OF THE REPUBLIC
OF SAN MARINO
Center for Security Studies



UNIVERSITY OF ROME
"Tor Vergata"
Department of Electronic Engineering



OSDIFE
Observatory on Security
and CBRNe Defence

Online Workshop "Importance of Forensics in Disaster Management"

Introduction: Dealing with the deceased is a challenging aspect of disaster response, often overlooked. Disasters claim thousands of lives each year globally, with insufficient planning for managing the deceased. This gap has been highlighted after major disasters. When many people die in humanitarian crises, their remains are often mishandled, reducing the ability to identify them and prevent them from becoming missing persons. Forensic work is crucial in understanding major events, especially recent ones. Analysis of disaster scenes and forensic data helps uncover causes and aftermath, refine response strategies, and enhance preparedness. Exploring disaster forensics provides profound insights into impacts and improves decision-making and resilience in the face of natural, accidental, and intentional disasters.

General objective: This event is dedicated to advancing disaster response and readiness, with a specific focus on the often overlooked aspect of the respectful handling of the deceased. It strives to improve victim identification and prevent individuals from becoming missing statistics after disasters strike. Moreover, the Workshop underscores the key role of forensic methods in comprehending the complexity of significant events. These insights empower participants to better understand the causes and consequences of disasters, refine response strategies, and fortify preparedness measures. Ultimately, this Workshop endeavors to provide valuable insights not only to decision-makers but also to a diverse array of professionals involved in disaster response, fostering resilience in the face of natural, accidental, and intentional disasters.

Target Group: Emergency Responders, Forensic Professionals, Law Enforcement personnel, Researchers, and anyone interested in enhancing their knowledge of disaster forensics.

Main Topics:

The Workshop covers vital aspects of deceased management in emergencies, including principles, international laws, key procedures, security protocols (such as PPE use), Family Assistance Centers, Body Holding Areas, cultural and religious considerations. It also explores the roles of forensic science, emergency services, and autopsies in mass fatality incidents. Recognizing the emotional toll, the workshop highlights the importance of psychosocial support for responders.

Date: 10 November 2023, 4.00 PM - 6.00 PM (Central European Time)

Speaker: Dr. Mohamed Amine Zaara, Humanitarian and Disaster Forensics Specialist

Workshop Fee: Free of Charge

Contact: via email cemec@iss.sm