Deliverable D9.9:
Annual newsletter

Author(s):	Kim Hagen, Su Anson, Hayley Watson, Kush Wadhwa (TRI)
Dissemination level:	Public
Deliverable type:	Draft
Version:	1
Submission date:	Due 31 March 2015

Change records

Issue	Date	Description	Author (Company)
0.1	17.03.2015	First version developed	Kim Hagen, Kush Wadhwa (TRI)
0.2	24.03.2015	Input UCL	Zehra Zaidi (UCL)
0.3	30.03.2015	Internal review	Su Anson, Hayley Watson, Kush Wadhwa (TRI)
0.4	31.03.2015	Final version	Kim Hagen (TRI)

The following newsletter was sent out to the FORTRESS contact list via MailChimp on 31 March 2015.
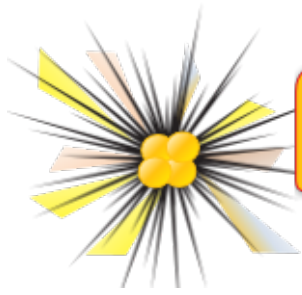
FORTRESS Foresight Tools for Responding to cascading effects in a crisis

YEAR 1 NEWSLETTER – March 2015

The FORTRESS project aims to identify and understand cascading effects of a crisis by using evidence-based information from a range of previous crises.
The project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no. 607579.

With our Year 1 Newsletter we hope to inform you about our past and planned activities. Before we refresh your mind on what has happened, let us start with sharing news on our upcoming workshop.

WORKSHOP 10 April 2015
On 10 April 2015, FORTRESS is organising a workshop in which mock-ups of the FORTRESS Scenario Building tool and the Incident Evolution Tool will be presented. Workshop participants are invited to engage with these mock-ups and provide input to the ongoing development of these tools. We're looking for participants involved in decision making processes during crises. Interested in participating? Contact Kim Hagen for more information or visit our website.

A lot has happened over the past 12 months. Here's a brief overview of some of the most relevant happenings:

FORTRESS KICK-OFF MEETING
On 27 and 28 May 2014 all FORTRESS partners came together in Berlin for the project's Kick-Off Meeting (KOM). It was an opportunity to discuss the core elements of the project as well as fundamental methodologies. The video

made during the meeting can be viewed via this [link](#).

REPORTS

The work set out in FORTRESS is divided over ten Work Packages (WPs). In the first year we have produced the following publically available research reports, commonly referred to as 'deliverables':

Deliverable 1.2: [Decision support and modelling tools](#)
This report discusses and analyses different decision support, foresight & predictive, and training tools.

Deliverable 1.3: [Morphological analysis](#)
This report addresses the development of a morphological model to structure and compare the disparity between disruptive and stabilising factors.

Deliverable 2.1: [Pathogenic vulnerabilities and resilient factors in systems and populations experiencing a cascading and/or cross-border disaster](#)
Pathogenic vulnerabilities and the resilient factors in systems and population experiencing cascading crises are discussed in this document.

Deliverable 2.2: [Gap analysis model](#)
This report addresses gaps between factors of resilience and vulnerability.

Deliverable 3.1: [Crisis case studies of cascading and or cross-border disasters](#)
In this report nine historical case studies are analysed with regard to triggers of cascading effects.

Deliverable 3.2: [Map of stakeholder inter-relationships and ecosystems](#)
Following up on Deliverable 3.1, stakeholders involved in the nine case studies are mapped, and the relations between them are described.

Deliverable 7.1: [Methodology on end-user engagement](#)
This report details on the approach taken to enhance the engagement of end-users in the project.

All of these reports are accessible via the [Research page](#) of our website.

EVENTS

There have been several FORTRESS meetings since the start of the project, providing opportunities for all partners to come together and discuss the

project's progress. In addition to this we have been present at several external events. The full list of past events can be found on the Past events page of our website.

One of the most recent events at which FORTRESS was discussed was UCL's attendance at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan. Several institutions and organisations present at the event were working on issues relevant to cascading disasters, and the work being done under the FORTRESS project was of particular interest to the Japan CSO Coalition, whose members have recently produced a report on the cascading effects of the Fukushima disaster.

FORTRESS continues for 2 more years. There are plenty of reports to come and events to engage in! Here's a preview of what can be expected in the future:
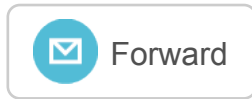
RESEARCH
Our efforts will soon be focused on the system analysis component of the project, in which explicit attention will be paid to analysing mutually dependent-systems. Additionally, we're starting on the development of tools to model cascading effects.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES
We are also involved in several upcoming events. The next event we are involved in is the 12th International Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM), in May 2015. We had two papers accepted and will be representing FORTRESS at the conference's EU Project Symposium. Also coming up is the SECED conference, where we'll present on cascading effects and recovery from disaster.

Until our next newsletter reaches your inbox, stay updated by visiting our website and following us on Twitter!

Website   Twitter

Tweet   Forward   Share

unsubscribe from this list   update subscription preferences

MailChimp