_JISSec - Special Issue on Information and Communication Technology
for Better Mitigation of Extreme Events_

Editorial

We are pleased to present the second special issue of Journal of Information System Security. This Special Issue is devoted to the theme of information and communication technology for better mitigation of extreme events.

The first paper — "Mitigating Disaster: Improvising Information Technology in Response to Extreme Events" — is by John C. Borne and Suzanne D. Pawlowski of Louisiana State University, USA. In this paper the authors build on a case study to examine the use of information and communication technology in conjunction with disaster mitigation activities in an area adjacent to a large disaster. The paper provides insights into the challenges encountered and strategies employed during the response effort in light of improvisation theory. The findings of the study suggest ways to understand how information and communication technology resources can be mobilized to face an extreme situation, such as a community disaster or a business crisis.

The second paper — "Top Management Support, External and Internal Organizational Collaboration, and Organizational Flexibility in Preparation for Extreme Events" — is co-authored by Joseph B. Skipper of Air Force Institute of Technology, USA and Dianne J. Hall and Joe B. Hanna of Auburn University, USA. In this study, the authors examine the relationship between extreme event planning, a method of responding to and preparing for business interruptions, and organizational flexibility. Specifically, the paper considers the impact of top management support and external and internal organizational collaboration on organizational flexibility. This research provides a foundation for examining designed flexibility in the context of extreme events, as well as its implications for information and communication technology design and use.

The third paper — "An Exploratory Delphi Study among Small Business Executives on Adoption of Disaster Recovery Practices" — is by

Barrie Cumbie of University of Southern Mississippi, USA and Casey Cegielski and Chetan S. Sankar of Auburn University, USA. The exploratory study concentrated on small business executives and asked them what disaster recovery strategies are appropriate to protect against a disaster and why are the practices adopted. The authors consider disaster recovery in the context of small organizations, which are not only very important in the economy of a country, but also present specific challenges for research and practice, namely by their increased vulnerability to information security threats and their owners' centralized decision-making process. The discussion of the findings is framed by classical innovation diffusion theory.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and we invite you to engage in the discussion of the role of information and communication technology for better mitigation of societal and organizational extreme events.

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