

# Kyoto University the Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability (GSAIS)

Creating Resilient Societies Research Group

**Day and Time: July 27th (Tuesday), 2021 10:00 -12:00**

**Venue: Higashi Ichijyokan, Kyoto University #113 Conference Room**

The 10th Event: Roundtable

## How can we protect the vulnerable in crisis situations?

### Speakers:

Hamilton Bean, Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Colorado Denver. (Presentation Title) "Mobile Technology for Public Alert and Warning: Increasing Resilience or Vulnerability?"

Abel Polese, The Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction, Dublin City University. (Presentation Title) "The Art of Bypassing the State: Informality as a Governance Mechanism to Protect the Poor, the Weaker, the Invisible"

(See the backside of the flyer for the abstract and brief profile for each speaker)

### Moderator:

Mika Shimizu, Associate Professor, GSAIS

#Registration: Send the e-mail including 1)your name, 2) affiliation, and 3) your email address to:  
[shishukanresilience@gmail.com](mailto:shishukanresilience@gmail.com) with the email title "Registration for Resilience Roundtable " **by 26th Noon.**  
#Language: English  
#Note: By taking into account the COVID-19 situation, the numbers of attendees will be limited to 25  
(Registration first-come-first-served basis). If you don' t feel well on the event day, please avoid the attendance.  
Thank you.



**Hamilton Bean**, Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Colorado Denver

**“Mobile technology for public alert and warning: Increasing resilience or vulnerability?”**

**Abstract:** Disaster risk management stakeholders have witnessed the proliferation of “next-generation” mobile public alert and warning technologies. These technologies include the Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) and ShakeAlert systems in the United States, and the J-Alert and Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) systems in Japan, along with various local and commercial opt-in systems, mobile apps, and social media tools in both countries. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (2018) report *Emergency Alert and Warning Systems: Current Knowledge and Future Research Directions* signaled that even newer mobile technologies are already in use or on the horizon, such as real-time location tracking, community-oriented apps, gamification, machine learning, automation, and artificial intelligence, among others. Considering these developments, the presentation explores whether and how mobile public alert and warning developments promote resilience and/or contribute to systemic (and new) social vulnerabilities.

**Brief Bio:** Hamilton Bean, Ph.D., MBA, APR, is Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Colorado Denver. He also serves as Director of the University of Colorado Denver’s International Studies Program. He specializes in the study of communication and security. He was part of a U.S. Department of Homeland Security-funded research team that investigated the optimization of Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) messages for imminent threats. His research has been cited by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission in rulemakings that govern the use of the WEA system. He has earned funding from the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Japan Foundation’s Center for Global Partnership to study mobile public alert and warning in the United States and internationally. He is Associate Editor for *Natural Hazards Review*, and his research has been published in numerous international academic journals and edited volumes. His latest book is *Mobile Technology and the Transformation of Public Alert and Warning* (Praeger Security International, 2019). He returns to KU’s Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI) this summer as a Visiting Professor after having served as a Guest Researcher in 2019.

**Dr. Abel Polese**, The Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction, Dublin City University

**“The art of bypassing the state: informality as a governance mechanism to protect the poor, the weaker, the invisible”**

**Abstract:** This presentation critically engages with how formal and informal mechanisms of governance are used across the world. Specifically, it analyzes how the governance mechanisms of formal institutions are questioned, challenged and renegotiated through informal institutions. Using a variety of case studies from Africa, Asia and Latin America this presentation attempts to explain why, in a variety of world regions, a substantial number of people tend to ignore or act against state rules. We propose to look at informality beyond simplistic associations of the phenomenon with a single category such as “informal labour” or “corruption”. By doing this, we propose to look for a correlation between the emergence, and persistence, of some informal practices and the quality of governance in a given area. We also suggest that a better understanding of the variety of informal practices present in a region can help conceptualising more adequate interventions and eventually improve the socio-economic conditions of its inhabitants that takes into account formal and informal governance structures, which complement each other but are also constantly in competition.

Abel Polese is a researcher, trainer, writer, manager and fundraiser. His interest in theory and practice of development led him to work across disciplines, conduct research and design interventions in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and the Americas. An alumnus of the Global Young Academy, he is interested in mental health and support for early career researchers, scholars at risk and researchers from the Global South. He is the author of “The SCOPUS Diaries and the (il)logics of Academic Survival: A Short Guide to Design Your Own Strategy and Survive Bibliometrics, Conferences, and Unreal Expectations in Academia”, a reflection on academic life, research careers and the choices and obstacles young scholars face at the beginning of their career. You can find him on Twitter at @Abiquitous and @scopusdiaries.