



Center for
Public Service
Communications

Empowering competent enthusiastic people to do good things

John Scott
Highlights of DRR Background



Mr. Scott founded (1990) and directs the Center for Public Service Communications (CPSC) whose mission is to provide guidance and expertise to individuals, communities and public sector organizations in the field of applying telecommunications and information technologies to reduce health disparities, to improve health services to underserved and disenfranchised individuals and communities and to improve the collection and sharing of scientific, technical and community knowledge to reduce human vulnerability to natural hazards. Mr. Scott's International working experience includes the Americas, Africa, SouthEast Asia, the Caribbean, China, the Arctic, Western Europe, the Pacific and the former Soviet Union.

Mr. Scott is currently focal point for the UNDRR International Campaign for Disaster Risk Reduction in Indigenous Communities and recently completed a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation-funded initiative to explore whether and to what extent Indigenous Knowledge reduces risk to natural hazards.

He has played key roles in initiatives to engage Indigenous peoples in disaster risk reduction for the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the UN Office of the High Commission for Human Rights and the UN Office of Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

He coordinated development efforts to provide health information support in Haiti after the January 2010 earthquake, on behalf of PAHO and the U.S. National Library of Medicine.

Executive Director for the National Congress of American Indians President's Task Force on Health Information and Technology; goal to improve quality and access to health information in Indian Country and Native communities (2002-2007).

He was co-author of "How to Make Cities More Resilient: A Handbook for Local Government Leaders (2012)" for UNISDR and founded the Refugee Health Information Network (RHIN).

Principal developer of the Central American Network for Disaster Health Information (CANDHI) and Principal Investigator for the South-East Asia Disaster Health Information Network after the 2004 Tsunami for WHO's SouthEast Asia Regional Office.

On behalf of ISDR, drafted plan for the "Partnership Initiative for Sustainable Development" designed to strengthen early warning systems as for disaster risk management strategies at global/regional/national levels, to highlight relation to sustainable development.

On behalf of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs he was the first project manager for ReliefWeb.

Rapporteur and first author of the Berlin Declaration on Disaster Reduction and Global Environmental Change, on behalf of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and hosted by the German Committee for Disaster Reduction and the German National Committee on Global Change Research

Organized/chaired the First International Conference on Disaster Communications (1989) for the UN Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) and was a founding member of the UN Working Group on Emergency Telecommunications.

Author of IDNDR's Early Warning Programme Action Plan for the Future and Chairman of the IDNDR Working Group on Earth Observation, Hazard Analysis and Communications Technology, with the objective to frame disaster early warning policy and recommend improved coordination within the United Nations system.

Mr. Scott is Tlingit and an enrolled member of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.