This session will focus on two important issues:

1) How can new collaboration technologies & approaches improve preparation and response?

2) How will various collaboration technologies and approaches help improve coordination between members of the DMI family to collaboratively produce and share results?

There are many new collaboration technologies and communications channels available. These include such things as mobile (smart) phones, messaging (email, SMS, twitter), social networking (Facebook, LinkedIn, Gist), information sharing (websites, wikis, maps), GIS and mashups, mobile machine translation, crowd sourcing and even multiplayer games (MMOG).

How will these affect collaboration environments for emergency response and solution development? What additional collaboration tools would be useful? What are the advantages and disadvantages to Google Earth and World Wind and similar applications? What is the role of Hyperwalls and similar technology? What collaboration problem would you like to solve? What collaboration tools would help with your collaboration problem? What features of your collaboration problem are not supported (or supported poorly) by existing collaboration tools? How will various collaboration technologies and approaches help improve coordination between members of the DMI family to collaboratively produce and share results? Could we use traditional version management tools such as subversion, communication via email, IM, wiki, website, open source approaches, reuse libraries, etc.? What are best choices to use with our diverse group that would enable the most effective work?
Question to address during the break-out session:

1. What are opportunities to leverage new technologies and approaches in your area?

2. What are the technical and organizational challenges?

3. What are the top three short term synergistic activities we should commit to do, and how to proceed?

4. Where can we find the needed money to address these activities?

5. What are the Interoperability and System Integration implications and issues?

6. Optional: Sketch the longer term roadmap of proposed actions and research.