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## IFIS Goes to Washington

Posted on September 10th, 2014

The Iowa Flood Center's Ibrahim Demir was invited to participate in a special daylong event on July 29 at the White House in Washington, D.C. The Obama administration launched the White House Innovation for Disaster Response and Recovery Initiative Demo Day in the wake of Hurricane Sandy to find the most effective ways technology can support various stakeholders with critical information and resources. The event brought together technologists, entrepreneurs, and disaster responders to present and share technologies that will support citizens before, during, and after large-scale emergencies.



Ibrahim Demir was invited to participate in the White House Innovation for Disaster Response and Recovery Demo Day in July.

Demir, who is an assistant research engineer at IIHR, spoke about the [Iowa Flood Information System](#) (IFIS) and shared details of the IFC's efforts to communicate timely flood-related information, and to improve flood preparedness and response in Iowa. Demir, an expert in environmental informatics, is the chief designer and architect of the IFIS system, which provides a user-friendly online source of flood-related information in near real time.

After a morning of workshops focusing on disaster preparedness, federal agencies and major companies presented information on their programs and systems for disaster response. Demir also took part in a demo hour at the end of the day to discuss technologies related to disaster recovery.

"The main point of this event was to share data and information as openly as possible between agencies, companies, and all interested parties," Demir says. He explains that there are many initiatives focused on accessing new data resources from federal and commercial resources.



The Iowa Flood Center's Ibrahim Demir was invited to the White House in July to talk about his work on the Iowa Flood Information System.

Other participants in the event included the top technology officers of many federal agencies (US CTO, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, Homeland Security, National Security Council, EPA, DHS, DoE, USGS, FEMA, and USAID), as well as major companies (Google, Microsoft).

Demir is also an adjunct assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering.

Tags: [Ibrahim Demir](#), [IFC](#), [IFIS](#), [Iowa Flood Center](#), [Iowa Flood Information System](#), [Washington](#), [White House](#)