

Conference News

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Monday 16 July 2007



Good morning and welcome to the first day of business of Cambridge Conference 2007, sponsored by ESRI

Yesterday was sponsored by Trimble and saw a flying start to the conference with a typical English Garden Party – complete with a sprinkling of rain and a crash of thunder in the middle of Vanessa Lawrence's introduction of Kate Adie, our guest who officially opened the conference and cut the conference cake.

Kate had clearly done her homework and entertained us with a number of stories from her career as a BBC reporter, finishing with one that underlined the importance of maps.

Delegates arrived in a steady stream during the day; first the long-haul flights, with the European delegates arriving later. It must be said that



as the delegates waited patiently to register, they showed little sign of having journeyed half way round the world. Delegate numbers are up on 2003 and the pressure on the Registration Desk showed as it had to open one and a half hours early.

Despite the threat of rain, the Garden Party was greatly enjoyed by all, with a gallant band of volunteers weaving intricate patterns with the maypole ribbons and jars of sweets being won on the game sideshows.



Weather for Cambridge

Monday
Max 22°C
Min 13°C



So, to Day One of conference business. We look forward to hearing Air Marshal Stuart Peach, Britain's Chief of Defence Intelligence. There are two changes to today's programme from what is printed in the Event Guide:

- We are unable to run the workshop on Corporate Resilience, which has been replaced by a screening of *An Inconvenient Truth*, Al Gore's film about global warming that has caused a world-wide stir. The film will be followed by a facilitated discussion on how NMAs can contribute to the response.
- Workshop 5, on Winning Support from Key Stakeholders will now be chaired by Dave Lovell who has many years of experience in Public Affairs at Ordnance Survey. Daniele Rizzi of the European Commission will be an additional contributor.

We hope you have a great day.



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