

DeSIRE tenure track position #7: Modeling and governance for the response to large-scale disruptions

University: Delft University of Technology

Faculty: Faculty of Technology Policy Management

Responsible Professor: Dr. Tina Comes

Expected to open: This position is expected to open around September 2018

Description:

Our societies are confronted with an increasing number of shocks leading to large-scale disruptions, ranging from extreme weather events to societal unrest. Key to creating the resilient knowledge society is the capacity to gain trusted and accurate data, to process and critically reflect on it, and to respond to problems as they emerge. Information and communication technologies empower new actor groups to self-organize and engage, taking on new roles and responsibilities.

This phenomenon has wide implications for coordination and governance of the response to disruptions. The widespread access to data and analysis tools gives rise to an unprecedented number of forecasts, predictions and analyses at any level, adding noise and uncertainty. The increasing pressure for accountability and transparency can lead to stalemates and long decision processes. But the longer it takes to make a decision the more likely it is that, given the pressure to respond, reactive measures have already been implemented locally. This lacking coherence increases the risks of decisions being rendered obsolete or seriously flawed even before they are implemented.

To address the aforementioned challenges, this position is situated at the nexus of modelling and simulation, coordination and governance for large-scale disruptions. The successful candidate will study how perceptions, understanding, problem formulations and solutions change in function of information and data, its visualisation and collaborative processes and deliberation. To this end, the candidate is expected to combine methods from operations research, modelling and simulation with empirical research on organization and governance. As such, the position is situated at the intersection of the three sections in the multi-actor systems department.

Position in framework of the programme (please delete what is not applicable):

- Approaches:
Modeling / Governance / Disaster Response / Coordination / Uncertainty
- Scale/application area:
cross-cutting

Synergy with other tenure track position(s):

- Governing Resilience of the RURBAN Metropolis (UT, Behavioural, Management and Social Sciences)
- Operational Measures for the Assessment of Resilience and Sustainability of Complex Adaptive Systems (WUR, Plant Sciences)
- Ethics of Technology (DUT, Technology Policy and Management)