

World Fire Congress Communities of Practice

Topic Abstracts — 2026 London Congress

5. Firefighting: Tactics and Training

The nature of fire is changing faster than the doctrines and training curricula designed to fight it. Around the world, fire services are confronting a widening gap between the environments their personnel train for and the incidents they are increasingly called to face. When fires spread into dense communities at the wildland-urban interface, burning structures become the primary fuel — increasing fire intensity and making suppression exponentially more difficult — yet traditional wildland training focuses on remote fire behavior while structural training only briefly addresses vegetation fires. Beyond the WUI, fire services globally face mounting complexity across multiple fronts: lithium-ion battery fires, high-rise and informal structure fires, industrial and chemical hazard response, mass casualty incidents, and large-scale flood and disaster co-response. Tactics that are standard practice in one nation may be unknown in another — and innovations developed in one context may be directly transferable to fire services facing similar challenges on the other side of the world. The knowledge exchange of delegates is key: fire service leaders need to know what solutions other nations are using for common challenges. This Community of Practice creates the space for that exchange — bringing together operational leaders, trainers, and researchers to compare doctrine, share lessons learned from significant incidents, explore simulation and technology-enhanced training, and build toward shared standards that elevate the effectiveness and safety of firefighters everywhere. [UL FSRI Training Academy](#) [UL WUI](#) [Fire Rescue 1 WFC](#)