

Technology Community Sit Rep: 19 Jan, 2010

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*** If info not on SitRep, it may be on prev. ones since I want to include the newest, most current efforts without making the SitRep too long, or I don't know about the info***

Coordination is key. We must continue to work together and do a better job of it every day.

Great Aggregators

- [http://wiki.crisiscommons.org/index.php?title=.php&title=Haiti/2010 Earthquake](http://wiki.crisiscommons.org/index.php?title=.php&title=Haiti/2010_Earthquake)
- <http://inventory.ict4peace.org/Haiti+Earthquake+-+January+2010>
- <http://www.esri.com/services/disaster-response/earthquakes/resources.html>
- <http://haiti.sahanafoundation.org/prod/>
 - Sahana looking for translation support
<http://translate.hfoss.eu/wiki/Translation>
 - Collaboration and to-do lists posted here
#sahana irc.freenode.net for collab. Our TODO is hosted at <http://bit.ly/sahana-haiti-todo>
- Ushahidi
 - <http://haiti.ushahidi.com/>
 - Real time situation room <http://sitroom.ushahididev.com/>
 - To submit online reports <http://haiti.ushahidi.com/reports>
 - How to volunteer <http://wiki.ushahidi.com/doku.php?id=4636instructions>
- Open Street Maps (OSM)
 - <http://haiti.openstreetmap.nl/> Best map of the situation on the ground I know of. Hundreds of volunteers working around the clock doing mapping on the ground.
- US SOUTHCOM online civ/mil coordination community. <http://community.apan.org/>
- In Haiti? Text 4636 (If outside of Haiti: 447624802524) on Digicel with your location and need. Report emergencies <<http://haiti.ushahidi.com/>> and missing persons <<http://haiticrisis.appspot.com/>> .
 - Include as much location information as possible.

Lessons Learned

- The Disaster Accountability Project is working on this, but we need to come together as a community to develop a system to rate and review humanitarian organizations to promote better accountability to those whom we serve.
- We are working extremely hard at providing real time intelligence to responders on the ground but we still do not have an adequate system established to know who is acting on which information. This is in development, but we need to establish

processes with responders to know who is accountable for what information and how we as the tech community will be kept in the loop.

- How do we continue to make information that comes in through Ushahidi more actionable? Remember, the mission is not build cool technology but rather to help those in Haiti and to address their needs.
- We need to constantly evaluate the relationship between the U.S. military and NGOs. The military needs to work to shift from a warfighting frame of mind to a humanitarian frame of mind when dealing with Haitians, and the NGO community needs to work to better understand the chain of command and how essential it is for a successful military operation
 - A greater role of National Guard soldiers and airmen has been suggested rather than combat troops.
- We need a SitRep on the status of Women and Children (40% of Haitians prior to the earthquake were under the age of 15). Who can provide these with people on the ground?
- There is much discussion about the security situation on the ground during the day and night. Many who venture outside of force protection areas feel extremely safe, counter to recent media reports. We must work to get out with the local population, learn from them, work with them, and let them lead.

People Finder Update

- <http://haiticrisis.appspot.com>
- Haiticrisis will soon be syncing with the American Red Cross' Disaster Safe site, developed after Katrina. <https://disastersafe.redcross.org/>

Sahana

- <http://haiti.sahanafoundation.org/prod/>

Mapping NGOs in Action

- http://wiki.crisiscommons.org/index.php?title=.php&title=Mapping_NGOs_in_Action

Health

- Alabama Incident Management System has stood up a deployment for Haiti that is starting to be integrated with other platforms
 - <http://h.aimslive.org/AIMS/UI/Response/Maps.aspx>
 - Also stood up a Need/Have medical system
 - <http://h.xchlive.org>
- We need all pertinent health cluster center and statistic data (location, capacity, supply amounts, staff #s, etc.). Send to Luke Beckman for aggregation.

SMS Shortcode

- We need to evaluate the metadata coming in through text messages per below.
- InSTEDD stood up an SMS-to-Geo location service
 - <http://eis.instedd.org:3001/>
- Digicel will soon provide the 4636 shortcode with the ability to broadcast SMS messages out.

- **Number of Text Messages:**
Overall 1719
Deemed useful 1040

Percent with identifiable latitude and longitude
Overall 27.02%
Last 24hrs 32.65%

Category breakdown - overall

Missing Persons 18.44%

Food distribution	17.02%	
Asking to forward a message	13.48%	
Water shortage	8.75%	
People trapped	6.15%	
Health services	5.44%	
Earthquake and aftershocks	4.26%	
Response	4.02%	
Medical Emergency	3.55%	
Shelter	3.07%	
Persons News	3.07%	
Emergency	2.36%	
Collapsed structure	2.36%	
Non food items	2.13%	
Died bodies management	0.95%	
Deaths	0.95%	
Vital Lines	0.71%	
Fire	0.47%	
Water sanitation and hygiene promotion	0.47%	
Road blocked	0.47%	
Looting	0.47%	
USAR Search and Rescue	0.47%	
Other	0.95%	

Category breakdown - last 24hrs

Food distribution	20.70%	
Asking to forward a message	15.09%	
Missing Persons	13.68%	
People trapped	7.02%	
Water shortage	7.02%	
Health services	6.67%	
Response	4.91%	
Medical Emergency	4.21%	
Shelter	3.86%	
Non food items	3.16%	
Collapsed structure	3.16%	
Persons News	2.11%	
Earthquake and aftershocks	1.75%	
Emergency	1.75%	
Deaths	1.05%	
Vital Lines	0.70%	
Fire	0.70%	
Other	2.46%	

Ground Truth

- 50 Airmen and three C-130 aircraft from the 193rd Special Operations Wing have departed in support of relief efforts in Haiti. The aircraft will be staged at locations outside the devastated area.
 - Two of the aircraft are cargo aircraft. The third, named Commando Solo, is an airborne radio and television station that will provide important information to the Haitian people.
- For precision airdrops, we are told that we need lat/long coordinates up to three decimal places
- There is a critical need on the ground to determine the best process to get medical requests that come into the technology community into an open system that can be triaged by professionals and then dispatched appropriately.
 - A small team has started to work on this but we need ground truth.
- One of the main ways that OCHA is communicating back with Haitians is through their relationship with the Thomson Reuters Foundation's AlertNet team and EIS (Emergency Information Service). This may be the only way- unconfirmed.
- As coordination on the ground becomes more complex and numbers swell, linking team members in real time is becoming vital. InSTEDD's GeoChat is being used frequently by teams made up of diverse members. <http://geochat.instedd.org>
 - Join the online community here for real-time support <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/geochatusers/>

- Many hospitals have 10-12 day patient backups
- The WFP says it needs to deliver 100 million ready-to-eat rations in the next 30 days, but it only has 16 million meals in the pipeline.

News

- http://blogs.state.gov/index.php/site/entry/text_4636_in_haiti
- <http://www.wired.com/dangerroom/2010/01/disaster-relief-20-haitis-virtual-surge/>

Mapping

- The OpenStreetMap community is heavily mobilized to support the relief effort in Haiti. This results in a valuable data set available as shapefile, WFS for GIS use and garmin images for use in GPS. All available for download at <http://labs.geofabrik.de/haiti/>
 - OSM is quickly becoming a mapping standard and highly valued resource on the ground.
- To put this map onto your GPS follow these instructions:
 - Download the map at
 - Rename the file to gmapsupp.img
 - Plug the GPS unit in “mass storage mode” (Setup->Interface->USB Mass Storage)
 - Put the file gmapsupp.img in the Garmin directory (create the directory if it does not exist)
 - Unplug the GPS unit
- OSM is looking at how to integrate Ushahidi reports to update OSM data for closed bridges, roads, etc...
- There will be continual updates made as new data becomes available in OpenStreetMap.
- Haiti view of OpenStreetMap: <http://www.openstreetmap.org/?lat=18.72&lon=-72.68&zoom=8&layers=B000FTF>
- ESRI Overview of all GIS <http://www.esri.com/services/disaster-response/earthquakes/resources.html>
- Early collaboration around all data sources <http://geonode.org/>
- Google Repository <http://www.google.com/relief/haitiearthquake/geoeve.html>
- Crisis Commons Wiki http://crisiscommons.org/wiki/index.php?title=Haiti/2010_Earthquake

For coordination/collaboration questions or issues, please contact Luke Beckman, National Response Liaison, InSTEDD +16507405853, Skype: lukebeckman, Email: Beckman@instedd.org.

Coordination also is ongoing in conjunction with STAR-TIDES (linwells@gmail.com, +1202-436-6354)

