

Bridging communities for disaster resilience

2014 Events | Bangladesh | Haiti | India | Indonesia | Japan Pakistan | Philippines | Vietnam



Natural Disasters

Natural disasters can hamper economic growth, create human suffering, and negatively and disproportionately affect the poor. Without appropriate preparedness measures, the extent and impact of economic and social damage associated with disasters will only worsen.

A Way Forward

Code for Resilience (CfR) is a global initiative to strengthen community resilience to natural disasters by connecting disaster risk management (DRM) experts with local technology communities. Through a series of virtual and in-person activities, CfR curates collaboration around the development of relationships, ideas, and tools (both software and hardware) that improve community resilience to natural disasters. The resilience continuum includes the ability to identify, reduce the risks from, and respond to major natural disasters.

CfR 2014

CfR encouraged coders to continue developing their ideas into mature applications over a three-month online mentoring period, followed by collaboration with local governments to implement and scale up these tools. Given differences in availability of data and resources, the applications are under different stages of development. Messiah and iLigitas for example, are already available on Google play. Jakarta InaSAFE and other promising website applications are still under development.

CfR Fellowship 2015

Building on the momentum established in 2014 through 10 hackathon events in 8 countries that engaged over 1,000 participants, this year Code for Resilience will introduce fellowship opportunities to further promote the use of open data and build a sustained community of open source software developers for collecting, analyzing, sharing, and improving risk data for better decision-making.





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Tools in Focus

- Nigechizu (Community based evacuation mapping) A project concept developed by young Japanese architects in their spare time, this app provides maps that include the path of past tsunamis and suggests safe locations for shelter in the event of a disaster. http://www.nigechizuproject.com/
- Jakarta InaSAFE: The idea behind this tool is to combine functionalities from InaSAFE* with different systems used by the Jakarta Disaster Management Agency (BPBD) to automate damage and loss assessment reports for Jakarta. Further technical development of Jakarta InaSAFE continues.

* InaSAFE is a free and open source software program that produces realistic natural hazard impact scenarios for better planning, preparedness, and response activities. http://inasafe.org/

- Messiah In case of an accident or emergency, the Messiah app relays a distress signal by sending emergency alerts to a pre-identified network of family and friends at the push of a button. Recognizing that often members of local communities are themselves the true "first responders," Messiah enables "samaritans" within its community of users to help one another in times of emergency. http://www.messiahapp.com/
- Save the Baby! This application focuses on providing critical maternal, newborn, and child health information in time-sensitive settings such as combating post-disaster disease outbreaks.

Save the Baby went on to win the MIT Climate Lab Code Sprint, and currently is being tested for implementation in the Philippines. http://mlabo.net/2014/09/5441/

() Browse the full catalogue of tools at http://www.codeforresilience.org

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