# Crisis Mapping

Through Crowd Sourcing

By

## Lt Col Saravanan G MILIT, Girinagar, Pune







# Natural Disasters

Can't see them coming... Can't stop them... Can we?

# he path til now...

# History



# Static Maps to GIS

- ✗ From the last quarter of the 20th century, the indispensable tool of the cartographer has been the computer.
- Much of cartography, especially at the datagathering survey level, has been subsumed by Geographic Information Systems (GIS)



# Post GIS days...Neogeography

- The three core drivers of this change are the increasingly available and accessible of:
- % Open-source, dynamic
  mapping tools;
- Mobile data collection
   technologies;
- % The development of new
  methodologies.





"Neogeography," is essentially about "people using and creating their own maps."

The revolution in applications for user-generated content and mobile technology provides the basis for crowdsourcing.

% Don't require expensive software or training % Are created by the users % Allow for more data sharing than proprietary data % Allow for more real time data

# Roll out of Google Earth

In 2005, Google rolled out Google Earth.

Free, user-friendly platform drastically reduced the cost of dynamic and interactive mapping—cost in terms of both availability and accessibility.





#### Development of Crisis Mapping : 2007 - 2008

X Automated Crisis Mapping (ACM), real-time and automated information collection mechanisms that allow for the automated and dynamic mapping of disaster and healthrelated events.





- Devastating Haiti earthquake
  - Over 1,00,000 dead
  - Millions homeless

# Crisis Mapping

#### Crisis Mapping is composed of three key components

- Information collection
- Visualization
- Analysis







There is a silver lining to every 'crowd'

### Information Collection

**P** 

#### Surveys

**%** Groups

### XMobile Phones ₩

 $\approx$  Automated Systems

% Satellite Images



#### VISUALISATION

Social
Signametric
Signamic
Sign







#### ANALYSIS

**%**Spatial **%**Temporal ₩Mix Analysis

1960

1960

u(D)

I(D)

0.4

0.8

100

10-1

10-3

10-4 0

**(D)** 10<sup>-2</sup>

# %Demographic Analysis











Mobile crowdsourcing platforms designed for the dynamic mapping of conflict and natural disasters

# J**shahidi** is a pioneer of sorts. more about it later !!!



Social Media is all prevalent, driven by the growth of smart phone availability !!





### The stakeholders...





#### Mobilise the Crowd



Knowledge Management Collaborative Workgroups Social Networks

Evolution



# The Crowds



The Need for Communities



### Information Management





# The Cloud



CROWDSOURCING, MAPPING, AND CROWDFEEDING TOOL

# What is Ushahidi?

- Originated from electoral violence in Kenya in 2008
- Kept Kenyans current on crisis and provided assistance to relief workers
- Swahili for "witness" or "testimony"
- A crisis mapping tool and/or an early warning system
- Global citizen journalism: allows people around the world to tell their story during a disaster or emergency situation
- Free, easy to use, deployable worldwide



# Haiti – January 12, 2010

# Haiti: earthquake



- More than 230,000 people died, mass destruction and 1.5 million left hor
- The response system unable to prioritize data from outside sources
- Ushahidi provided a way to capture, organize, and share critical informa

# Haiti: data analysis



- Ushahidi was deployed in the first two hours
- Within four days of the earthquake, 100,000 reports had been received
- Approximately 85% of Haitian households had access to mobile phones
- Although 70% of the cell phone towers in Port-au-Prince had been destroyed in the disaster, they were back online before Ushahidi became operational
- Volunteers translated 25,186 SMS messages and numerous e-mail, Web, and social media communications, resulting in 3,596 reports that were actionable



#### What are the issues and limitations?



#### How People Work Together Now

## Thank You

### GeoIntelligenceAsia 2015

Lt Col Saravanan G