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Asia-Pacific Centre for the
Responsibility to Protect



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

Early Warning for Protection

Technologies and Practice for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes



Mr Patrick Meier

*Exploring the Potential of New Technologies
in Conflict Early Warning*

Early Warning for Protection

Technologies and Practices for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes

The Role of New Technologies in Conflict Early Warning



Patrick Meier
pmeier@stanford.edu

Presentation

Conflict Early Warning

Learning from Disasters

Information Revolution

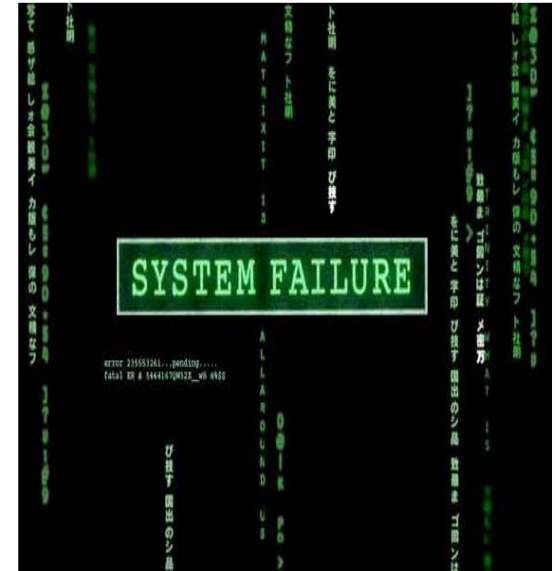
The Stages of Genocide

Role of Technology

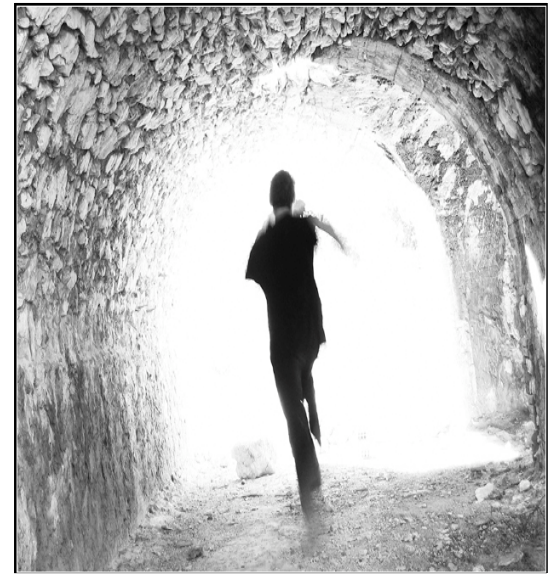
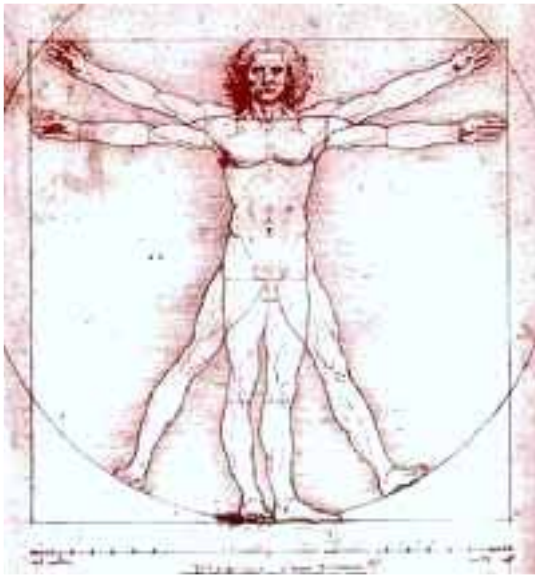
Examples



Conflict Early Warning



Learning from Disasters



Information Revolution

twitter

Login Join Twitter!

What if Twitter had existed in 1994 and Dallaire had tweeted his concerns instead of sending a fax?



RomeoDallaire

Romeo Dallaire



Radio Mille Collines

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition

Today's Edition also includes today's columns, Page 13. Today's main edition has 60 pages, plus news, tables, indexes and ads. Page 17. Monday only, Page 18.

VOL. CLVIII, No. 54,714

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NEW YORK, MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2009

\$2.00

STATES TURNING TO LAST RESORTS IN BUDGET CRISIS

PAINFUL CUTS AND TAXES

Even Officials in Same Party Are Fighting as Deadlines Loom

By LARRY GONZALEZ

In Hawaii, state employees are striking for pay raises of 3 to 5 percent a month over the rate for 2008. The equivalent of a 14 percent pay cut. In Idaho, lawmakers are debating cuts to public schools for the first time in recent memory. In New York, Gov. David Paterson is...

...and in California, where a \$24 billion deficit for the coming fiscal year is the state's worst. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has proposed raising thousands of dollars early and closing cuts that will take years.

In Nevada, Mayor is asking state to cover cost of his salary. President is off campaign, but Romney is on record as supporting Obama.

With state revenues down by 10 percent and the economy in a free fall...



Ferret's Heirloom, the daughter of the former president, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, was arrested last June and found in Sweden.

UNREST IN IRAN SHARPLY DIVIDES RULING CLERICS

CLAMPDOWN IN TEHRAN

Ex-President's Relative Briefly Held in Sign of Governing Rift

By NABIL A. FATMI and MICHAEL HEACMAN

TEHRAN — A wave of unrest that's taking clerical deepening Sunday over the disputed presidential election has cut a new rift in the ruling elite. In a move of 30 years, with the government attempting to link the deficit to the economy and deepening rift over the presidential election, a member of the former president's family...

The issue, Mr. Hassan Rouhani said, the government's cabinet also announced that the law to abolish was voted from the final vote of the assembly on the day the right to a protest on the 15th day, calling on the vast supporters to demonstrate peacefully despite their warnings from Iran's top leaders. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's supreme leader, said he would be pleased if "protesting in the street would be more than 100 million people."

Judge's Mentor: Part Guide, Part Foil

By DAVID G. HUBERMAN

WASHINGTON — For long, Aynon Sotomayor's

life has been a guide to

life. To work a job, to be a

U.S. Toughens Airstrike Policy

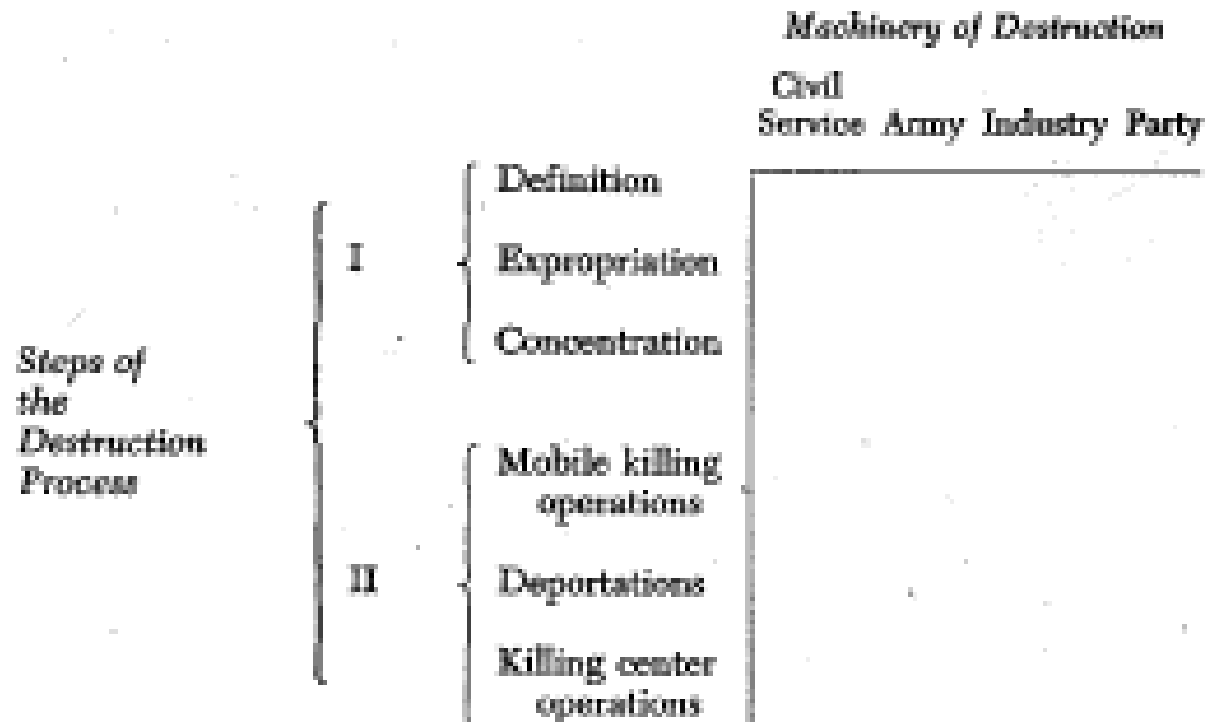
analysis: DigActive.org



WIKIPEDIA

Google

Stages of Genocide



Hilberg, Raul. "The Destruction of European Jews."
New York: Quadrangle Books, Inc., 1961, Pg. 39.



Stages of Genocide

1. Classification
2. Symbolization
3. Dehumanization
4. Organizations
5. Polarization
6. Preparation
7. Extermination
8. Denial

Stanton, Gregory. "The Eight Stages of Genocide and Preventing Genocide." Washington DC: Briefing Paper, US State Department, 1998.



Examples

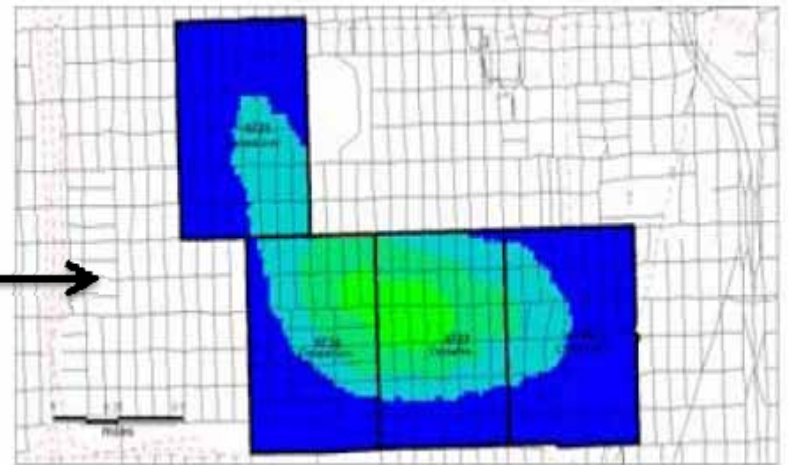
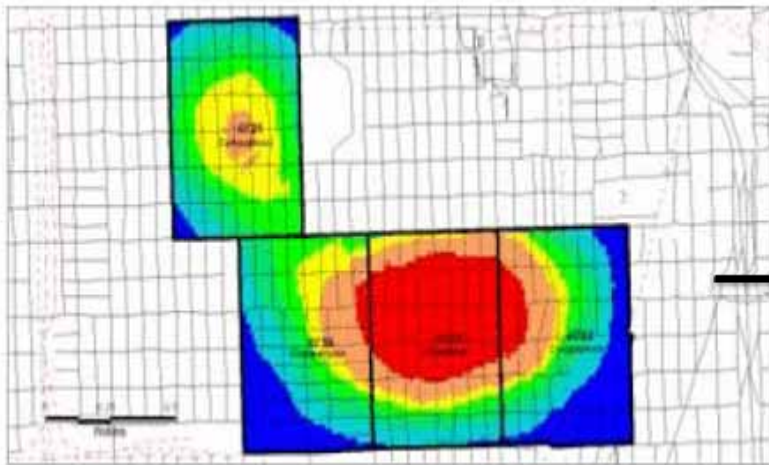
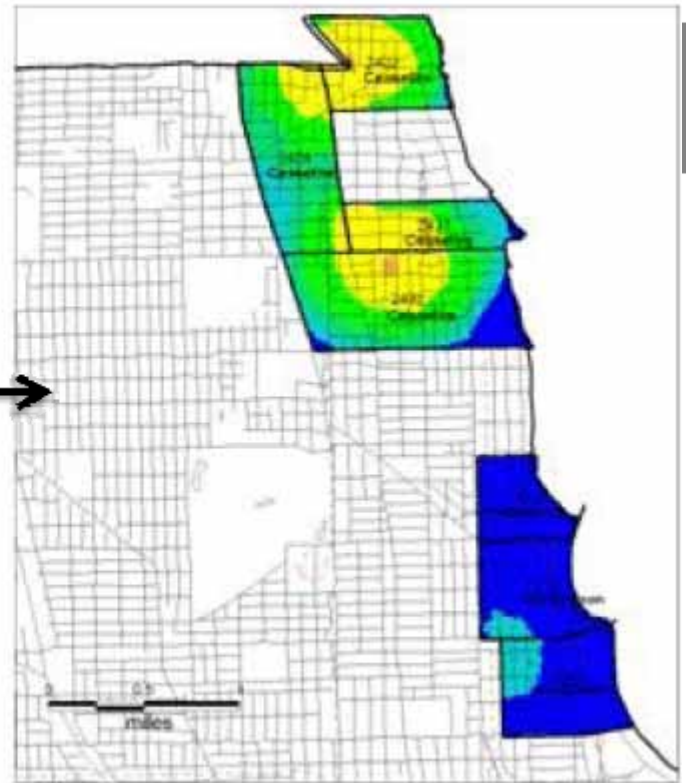
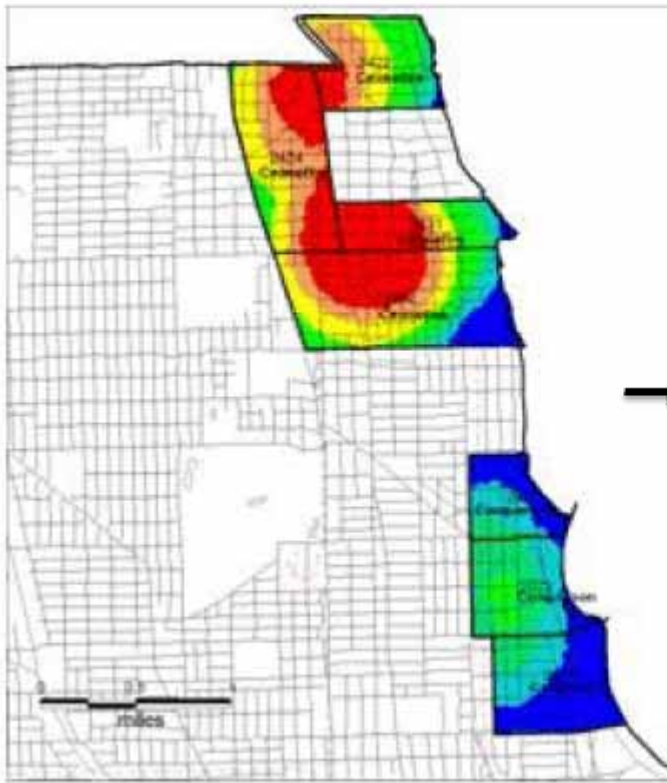


Uwiano



CeaseFire





Uwiano



VOICE of KIBERA

COMMUNITY MEDIA SHARING A VOICE FOR CHANGE



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WAR ON GAZA

ALJAZEERA

Home Reports Submit an Incident How to Help BETA

Click on the dots to view reports

This is an experimental web service. You may experience a few technical glitches but we are working to improve it.

Submit an Incident

Ushahidi

[SUBMIT AN INCIDENT](#) [SHARE](#) [English \(US\)](#)

Sudan Vote Monitor

An Independent Sudan Civil Society Initiative



HOME REPORTS SUBMIT AN INCIDENT GET ALERTS CONTACT US HOW TO HELP ABOUT US BLOG

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FILTERS **REPORTS** NEWS PICTURES VIDEO ALL VIEWS **CLUSTERS** TIME **CATEGORY FILTER**



Haiti

The 2010 Earthquake in Haiti

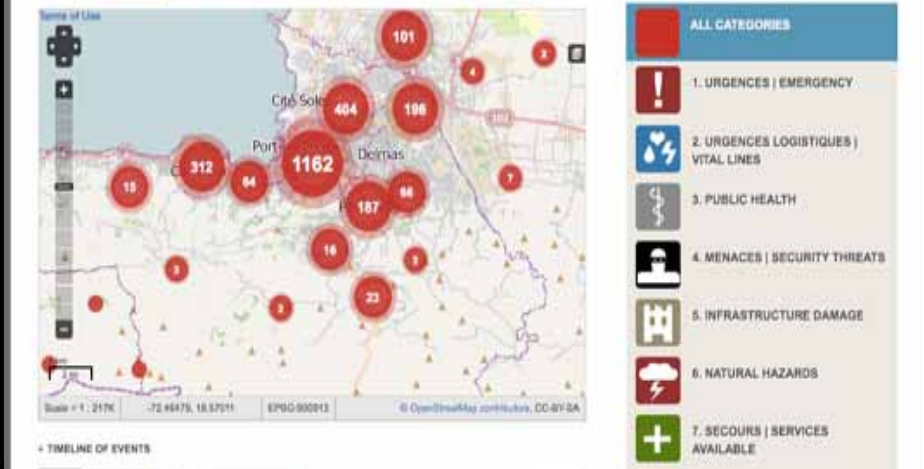
Haitian Diaspora Community: We need your help! Help Us Help Haiti

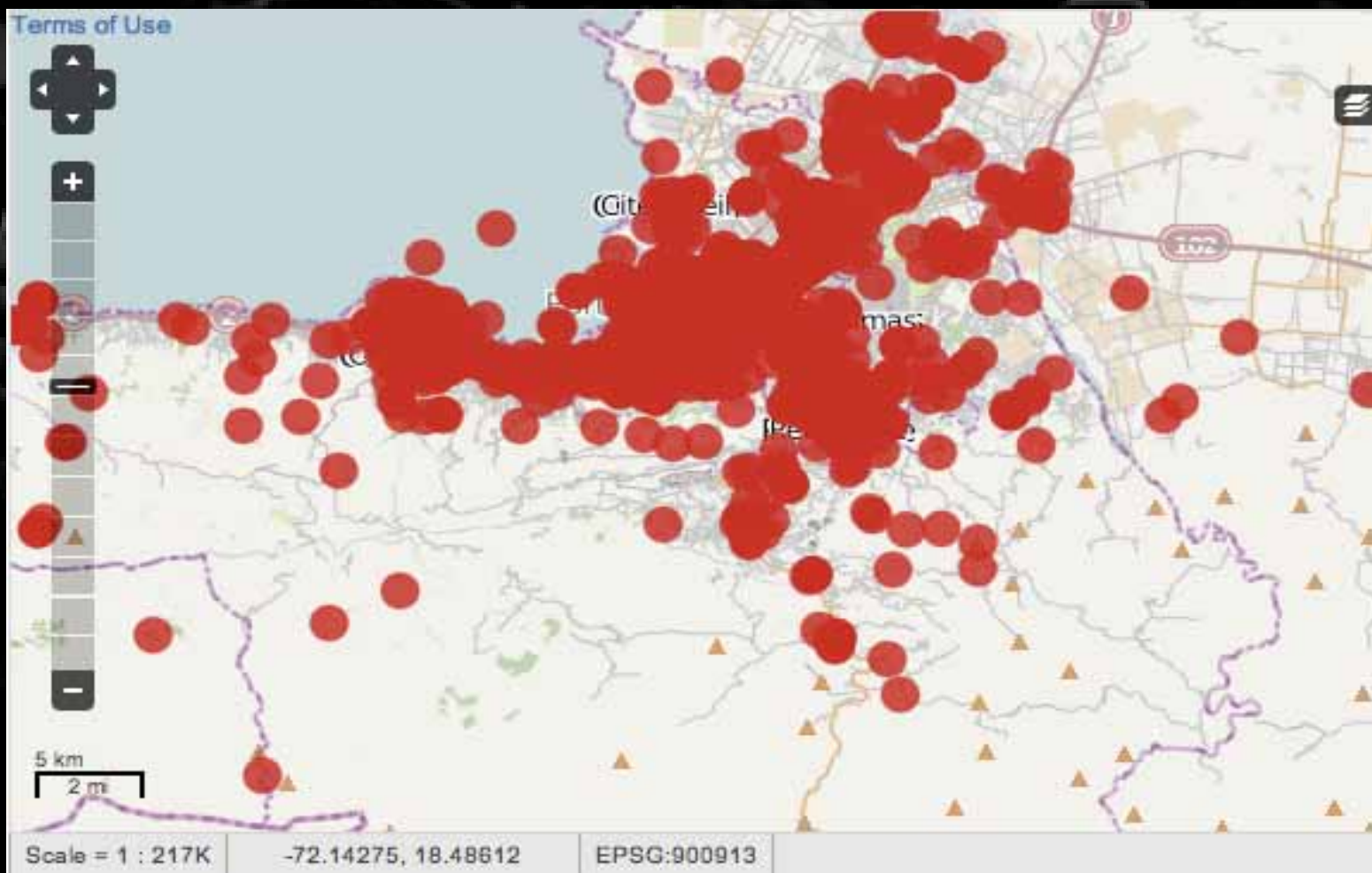
Announcement: Peace Dividend Marketplace can link you with goods and services in PAP: call 29 41 10 01

[SUBMIT INCIDENT](#)

HOME REPORTS SUBMIT INCIDENT GET ALERTS CONTACT US HOW TO HELP ABOUT

FILTERS **REPORTS** NEWS PICTURES VIDEO 1100 VIEWS **CLUSTERS** **CATEGORY FILTER**





Will the triangulated crisis map be regarded as the new first draft of history?

-Anand, NYT

Swiftly.org | Verifying and Filtering News (FOSS)

http://swiftly.org/

Most Visited - Gmail Facebook GReader iRevolution U-Team U-Blog U-Help U-Dev U-List U-Docs U-Cal U-Vol U-BCamp U-Wik CrisisMappers CM.Net Twitter Zipcar GMaps

Swiftly.org | Verifying and Filterin... +


SwiftRiver

Overview Products APIs Pricing Contact

SwiftApps

One size does not fit all. Swift was founded on a different principle: that *many sizes fit more*. Thus, we've developed several applications optimized for different tasks. Whether you're managing news, tracking global events, or monitoring realtime conversations about your brand, we've got a SwiftApp for you.

MORE...



← →

Intelligence from the Web

Mine the intelligence of millions of online users active on the Social Web. SwiftRiver helps you curate real-time data and

Analysis and Insight

Aggregate data from a number of different sources and make sense of it all. Swift helps users discover nascent relationships

GETTING STARTED WITH SWIFT RIVER

Find: Next Previous Highlight all Match case Find more on the web

Get Alerts

Ushahidi Alerts allow you to be notified of certain reports based on a location and categories and/or keywords.

1 Select Your Location

Click on the map to pin-point your location.



Don't see your location?

Search for it here

Adjust Radius

1 5 10 20 50 100
KM KM KM KM KM KM

2 Set Your Alert Preferences

Select Categories

- 1. Urgences | Emergency
- 2. Menaces | Threats
- 3. Urgences logistiques | Vital Lines
- 4. Secours | Response
- 5. Autre | Other
- 6. Nouvelles de Personnes | Persons News

Add Keywords

Comma separated, 20 keywords max.

shelter x food x bread x



Conclusion





New Early Warning Mechanisms

Panel Discussion

Early Warning for Protection

Technologies and Practices for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes



Afternoon Tea

Foyer

Early Warning for Protection



New Technologies For Prevention

Panel Discussion

Early Warning for Protection

Technologies and Practices for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes



Ambassador Daniel Stauffacher

Chairman, ICT4Peace

Early Warning for Protection

Technologies and Practices for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes

ICTs for the prevention of mass atrocity crimes

- Daniel Stauffacher

- Chairman, ICT4Peace Foundation
- November 2010



asking the right questions

- How can we harness, coordinate, and utilize the sometimes overwhelming amount of information available?
- What systems and mechanisms need to be put in place to ensure effective early-warning is given?
- How does the humanitarian sector work effectively with communities at risk once early-warning has been sounded?
- How can a change in attitude and behavior at a policy level be brought about in a way that forestalls a descent to violence?

some introductory remarks

- Despite the tremendous technological advances with ICTs it's still about information management, i.e. how we collect, analyse, process and use accurate information effectively
- ICTs for early warning for protection is still a new and underexplored field
- The technological advances are very fast and originate more from civil society, NGOs and volunteers than UN and Governments. The question is, how to crossfertilize the ICT tools and IM needs and standards between these two communities
- ICTs are only a tool that have to be tailored to needs, roles and jobs of humanitarian actors, and not the otherway around. We need to define first who the humanitarian actors and decisionmakers are in the field of protection, what they do and how ICTs can help them to be more effective



how are ICTs really helping?

- ITU: Access to mobile networks now available to over 90% of the globe. Penetration in developing countries now 68%
- Proliferation and access to mobiles, the web and the Internet have changed the face of prevention, protection and accountability
- It's still risky, hard work on the ground, but decisions are increasingly influenced by information coming from a range of new sources, including directly from victims and peoples at risk

the prevention of mass atrocity crimes

- Paragraph 36 of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) Tunis Commitment from 2005
- *“We value the potential of ICTs to promote peace and to prevent conflict which, inter alia, negatively affects achieving development goals. ICTs can be used for identifying conflict situations through **early-warning systems preventing conflicts**, promoting their peaceful resolution, supporting humanitarian action, including **protection of civilians in armed conflicts**, facilitating peacekeeping missions, and assisting post conflict peace-building and reconstruction.”*
- The 2005 World Summit Outcome called for an expansion of the United Nations capabilities for early warning and assessment of possible genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and in paragraph 138, the Heads of State and Government unambiguously pledged to “support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability”.

current work of the ICT4peace foundation

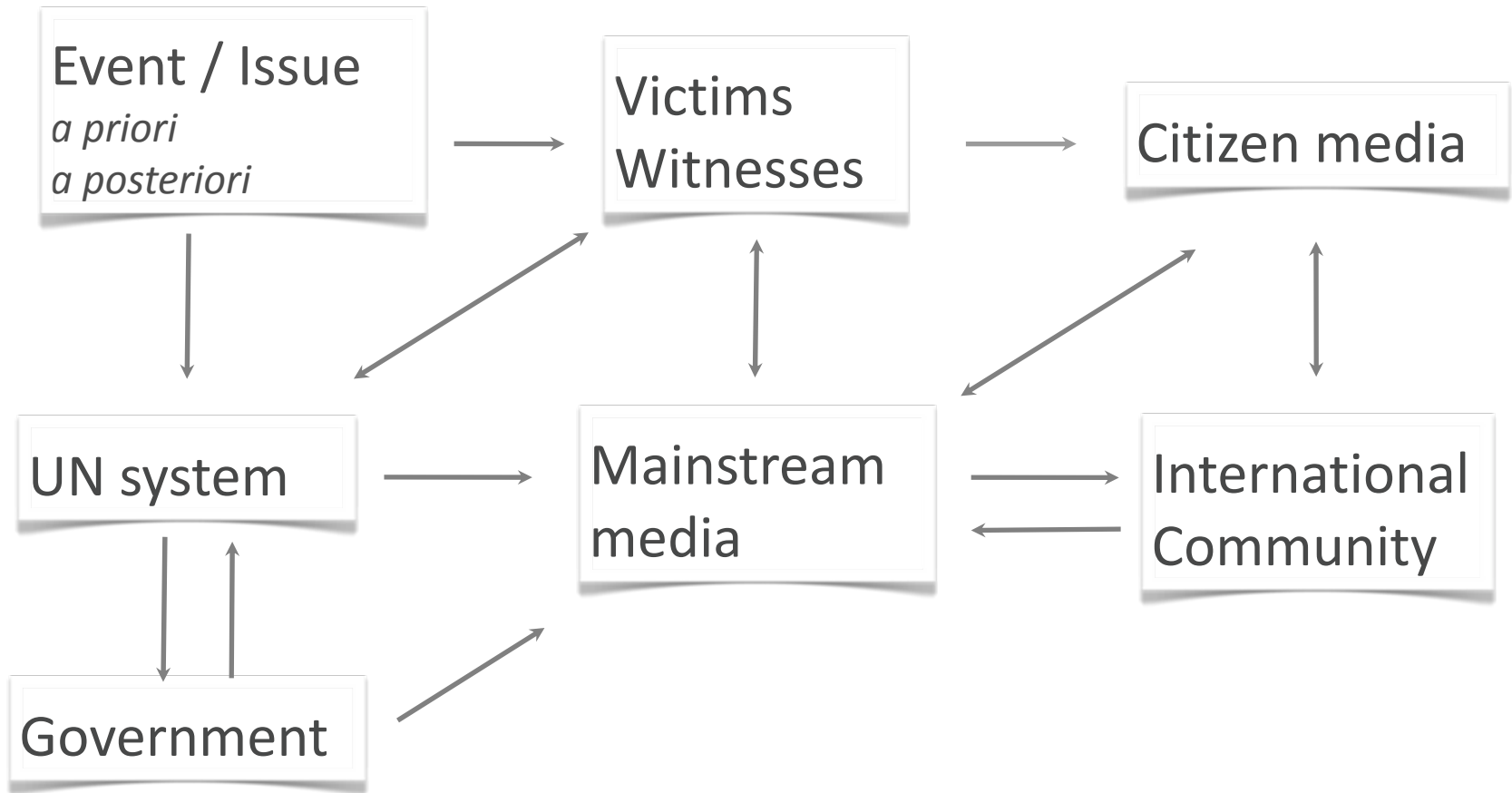
- The ICT4Peace Foundation aims to raise the awareness about the Tunis Commitment and promote its practical realisation in all stages of crisis management and peace operations, facilitating knowledge exchange and information transfer between all involved actors, including communities affected by disasters and conflict.
- In addition, the Foundation looks at four key pillars:
 1. UN Crisis Information Management (CiM)
 2. Crisis Information Management Wikis
 3. Crisis Information Management Platform
 4. Training and curricula development

what's new

- Ubiquity of **two way** communications
- Proliferation of **web, internet and mobile** tools, systems, platforms and services
- First indications now directly come from peoples, who are the **first and key witnesses**
- **Disintermediated** communication, where stories & information can by-pass traditional censorship mechanisms and firewalls
- **Multiplicity** of stories, reports, accounts

bearing witness and communicating

Barriers to and financial costs have fallen drastically



preventing recurrence of mass atrocity crimes

- ICTs can help in post-genocide reconciliation, truth-seeking, accountability mechanisms as well as in transitional justice
- Citizen generated media can flag marginalised victim narratives that local and international monitoring can pick up on
- The enduring socio-political normalising of genocidal intent and actions can be broken down through civil society dissent, activism and advocacy strengthened by ICTs
- Governments can use new media to decrease tolerance for genocidal policies and practices, and well as in memorialising and remembrance



some emergent ICT platforms

potential to be leveraged for mass atrocity crimes

- **The Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)**. Use of HF radios to strengthen CEWARN's ICT4Peace project, being tested in cross-border areas of Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda
- **UN's GlobalPulse** country level indicators and tools
- **US Holocaust Memorial Museum's** mapping initiatives, plus the use of Google Maps in general and the Crowdmap platform by Ushahidi
- **Swiftriver by Ushahidi and RIFF by InSTEDD** can help sense-making from a plethora of information sources, including The Matrix developed by Ushahidi and ICT4Peace Foundation
- **FrontlineSMS** to develop and push rapid assessment forms via SMS to populations at risk
- **Amnesty International** project entitled 'Geospatial Technologies
- **Project 10^100**, a competition hosted by **Google**, where a genocide monitoring project became finalist

enduring challenges

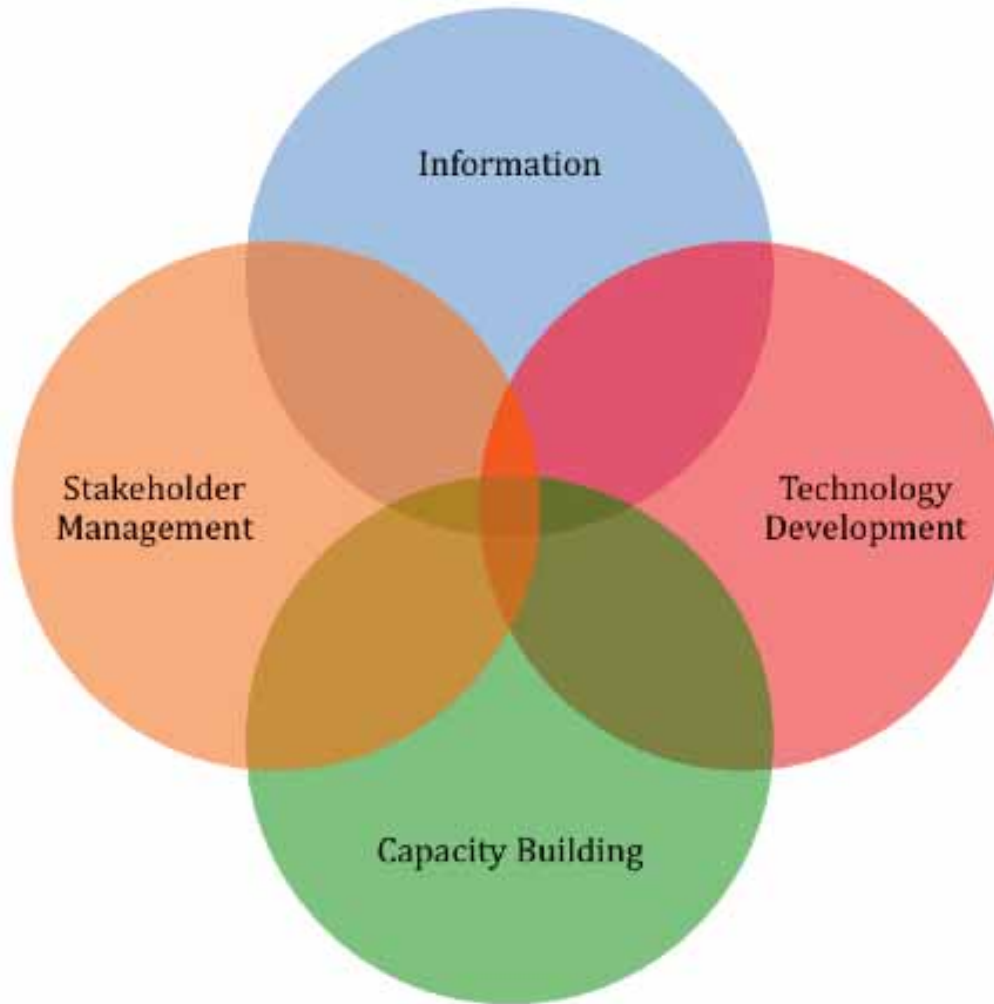
- No ICTs specifically looking at the prevention of mass atrocities
- Lack of standards based information exchange. Sense-making impeded by competing proprietary systems and platforms
- Unnecessary duplication, fragmentation and significant frustration with existing systems
- Little or no after action review or accountability by responders

cim vision

- “The UN’s problem is not the absence of information. Rather, it is the absence of an organisation to manage the information flow, linking early warning to other processes crucial to rapid reaction. To be effective, this early warning mechanism must be linked to individuals and organisations capable of acting on such information.” Gareth Evans, Chief Executive of International Crisis Group (ICG)
- **CiM vision:** “Recognising the need for credible, accurate, complete and timely information for managing crises, the United Nations, working collaboratively with its stakeholders, strives to **improve crisis information management capabilities to protect people, property, human dignity** and the environment affected by crises.”
- Includes DPKO and IASC

model for UN

crisis information management strategy



looking forward

- Buy in from senior management in institutions vital to effectiveness and efficiency of mass atrocity prevention networks and accountability mechanisms
- Policy makers need to embrace, not resist, potential of ICTs
- Interoperability is of cardinal importance
- Better information management vital to early warning, prevention, mitigation and recovery
- Need to see potential victims as those with agency, empowered by ICTs to bear witness
- Use ICTs already present in and used by local communities, without introducing those that are unsustainable over the longer-term

Tanzania Elections Ushahidi Uchoguzi

The screenshot displays the 'Uchoguzi Tanzania Decides' website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, REPORTS, SUBMIT A REPORT, GET ALERTS, CONTACT US, and ABOUT US. Below the navigation bar is a disclaimer: 'Disclaimer: We assume no responsibility for the validity of the reports submitted on this site. Reports represent a subsection of citizen experiences as reported by independent individuals and do not present a complete picture of all events in Tanzania.'

Submit a New Report

Report Title

Description

Date & Time: Today at 01:40 pm [Add this](#)

Categories

<input type="checkbox"/> ELECTION ISSUES	<input type="checkbox"/> POLING STATION/ISSUES
<input type="checkbox"/> Campaign process	<input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE events
<input type="checkbox"/> VOTE SPOKE	<input type="checkbox"/> RESULTS
<input type="checkbox"/> ISSUES WITH OFFICIAL ACTIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> SECURITY ISSUES
<input type="checkbox"/> MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> VOTE COUNTING & RESULTS
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	<input type="checkbox"/> VOTER ISSUES
<input type="checkbox"/> POLICE ACTION	

Optional Information

First Name

Last Name

Email

Source Reliability
---- Select One ----

Information Probability
---- Select One ----

Find a location near you

City: **Find Location**

*Search for your location using a location name of latitude longitude coordinates format: 38.91,35.87, or click on the map to pinpoint the correct location.

Refine Location name
Example: Center of City Market, 4th Street & 4th Avenue, Johannesburg

News source URL

Video link

Upload Photos
(Choose file) No file selected

Submit

Home | Report an Incident | Get Alerts | How to Help | About | Contact Us | Blog
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Submitting a report with Matrix: Information Reliability

Optional Information

First Name

Last Name

Email

Source Reliability

✓ --- Select One ---

- Yes, the source has direct access to information (witness or actor)
- Yes, the source has access to information, but can be wrong
- Yes, the source has no direct access to information, but is often right
- Not always, but is often right
- No, the source has (had) no access to information
- I do not know

News source link

Video link

Upload Photos

[Choose File](#) no file selected

Submit

Submitting a report with Matrix: Information Probability

The image shows a web form for submitting a report. The form is divided into two main sections: 'Optional Information' and 'Information Probability'. The 'Optional Information' section includes fields for 'First Name', 'Last Name', and 'Email'. Below these is a 'Source Reliability' dropdown menu. The 'Information Probability' section is a dropdown menu that is currently open, showing a list of options. The 'Upload Photos' section includes a 'Choose File' button and the text 'no file selected'. A green 'Submit' button is located at the bottom right of the form.

Optional Information

First Name

Last Name

Email

Source Reliability

--- Select One ---

Information Probability

- ✓ --- Select One ---
- Yes, the information is confirmed by several independent sources
- Yes, the information is not confirmed (yet), but is likely
- Yes, the information makes sense
- No, the information is surprising
- No, the information is unlikely and may be disinformation
- I do not know

News source link

Video link

Upload Photos

Choose File no file selected

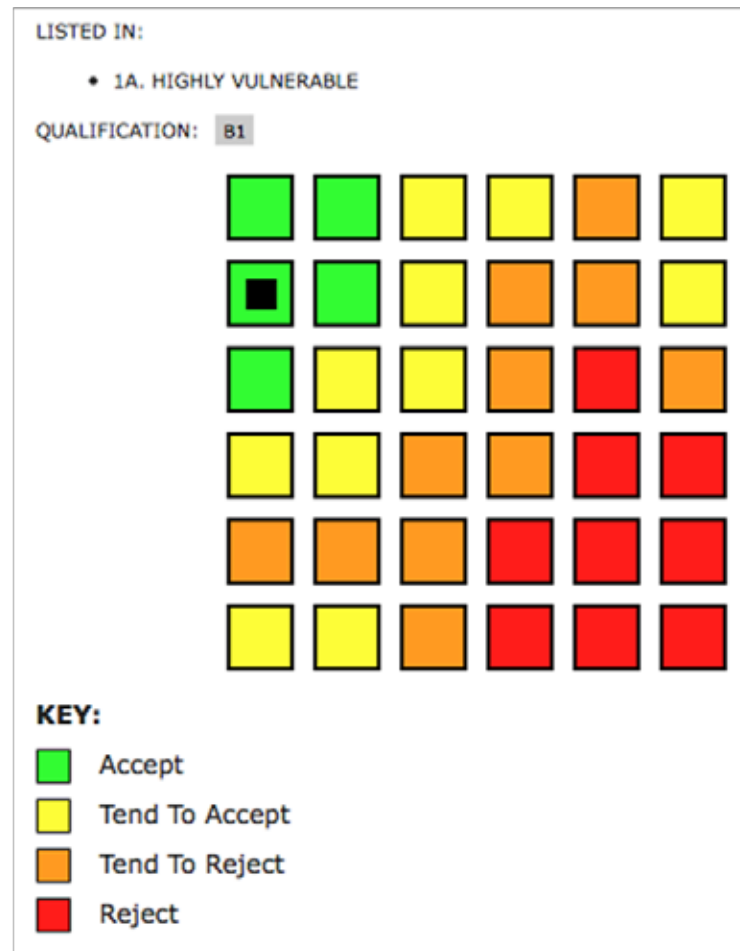
Submit

[Home](#) | [Report an incident](#) | [Get Alerts](#) | [How to Help](#) | [About](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Blog](#)

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[Provide Feedback](#)

Submitting a report with the Matrix: How the analyst can prioritize reports



Analysis Tool

Analysis

How Analysis Works

- This tool helps you find related reports in the system based on specified parameters.
- To the right, select the filters you'd like to apply to the reports you're looking for.
- Select the reports you'd like to analyse and click 'Perform Assessment'

[Hide](#)

Search Results [Select All](#) | [Select NONE](#)

- [US Citizen living in Haiti](#) [...](#)
Jan 14 2010, 03:17
- [Less than 10 persons pulled from UNHQ](#) [...](#)
Jan 14 2010, 03:18
- [Missing 5 years old Haiti](#) [...](#)
Jan 14 2010, 03:22
- [Help needed](#) [...](#)
Jan 14 2010, 03:25
- [looking for relatives margalle, jodanine and baby boy](#) [...](#)
Jan 14 2010, 03:40
- [Person Trapped - 66 Rue St. Gerard](#) [...](#)
Jan 14 2010, 03:44
- [Need Help with Crowd Control](#) [...](#)
Jan 14 2010, 03:46
- [Road Conditions: Port-au-Prince -->Les Cayes](#) [...](#)
Jan 14 2010, 03:49
- [Our mother 72 years old, Marie Suzanne Faustin Rue Delmas 31](#) [...](#)

PERFORM ASSESSMENT

SEARCH FOR RELATED ITEMS **SEARCH** **RESET**

DISTANCE FILTER Drag bottom right corner of map to resize

1 5 10 20 50 100 KM

TIME FILTER

Start Date: End Date:

CATEGORY FILTER

1A. HIGHLY VULNERABLE

ALL

1. URGENCES | EMERGENCY

- 1A. HIGHLY VULNERABLE
- 1B. URGENCE MEDICALE | MEDICAL EMERGENCY
- 1C. PERSONNES PRISES AU PIEGE | PEOPLE TRAPPED
- 1D. INCENDIE | FIRE

2. URGENCES LOGISTIQUES | VITAL LINES

- 2A. PENURIE D'ALIMENTS | FOOD SHORTAGE
- 2B. PENURIE D'EAU | WATER SHORTAGE
- 2C. EAU CONTAMINEE | CONTAMINATED WATER
- 2C. PROBLEME DE SECURITE | SECURITY CONCERN
- 2D. REFUGE | SHELTER NEEDED
- 2E. PENURIE DE CARBURANT | FUEL SHORTAGE
- 2F. SANS COURANT | POWER OUTAGE

3. PUBLIC HEALTH

- 3A. INFECTIOUS HUMAN DISEASE
- 3B. CHRONIC CARE NEEDS
- 3C. BESOINS EN MATERIELS ET MEDICAMENTS | MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY NEEDS
- 3D. OB/GYN/WOMEN'S HEALTH
- 3E. PSYCHIATRIC NEED

thank you

danielstauffacher@ict4peace.org



Ms Anahi Ayala Iacucci

New Media Consultant, Crisis Mappers

Early Warning for Protection

Technologies and Practices for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes



Conference Dinner Sunway Hotel

Pick Up from Hotel Foyer, 7pm

Early Warning for Protection



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