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Hosting Partners Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Province I.T. Board, Peshawar 2.0, University of Engineering and Technology, and Code for Pakistan

Peshawar Civic Hackathon

Country at a Glance

In Pakistan, natural disasters, such as earthquakes and monsoon floods, claim thousands of lives each year. Millions more are affected billions of Pakistani rupees worth of infrastructure are damaged as a result of such calamities.

Peshawar Civic Hackathon

Branded locally as Peshawar Civic Hackathon, this three-day coding event in February 2014 organized by Code for Pakistan, engaged 89 technologists to work on innovative tools that build resilience to natural disasters. Problem statements provided by the national and provincial disaster risk management agencies included issues such as digitization of housing surveys for needs assessments and the need for public alert systems to quickly convey emergency messages. Messiah, profiled to the right, is one of the 23 apps hacked during the code sprint.

A Way Forward—Code for Pakistan Fellowship Program

After the hackathon, Code for Pakistan established a fellowship program for the winners to implement and scale up their ideas into minimum viable products. Twelve participants were offered six-month fellowship opportunities hosted by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government IT Board.

In 2015 the Messiah App team members were selected to take part in an Oasis 500 boot camp training program for promising tech entrepreneurs, the largest tech-accelerator in the Middle East. They went on to win the top prize. Code for Resilience will continue to support Code for Pakistan in creating a community that focuses on developing open source tools and data for DRM.

Tool in Focus

- > 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.
- i Please visit their website: http://www.messiahapp.com/

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





Bridging communities for disaster resilience

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Hosting Partners

The Peshawar Civic Hackathon was a joint initiative by Code for Pakistan, Code for Resilience, the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Province I.T. Board, Peshawar 2.0, the University of **Engineering and Technology,** and the World Bank.

The 2014 hackathon emerged from the recognition that the rapid increase of penetration, awareness, and literacy in information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the developing world can help address development challenges such as disaster risk management.



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