

Somewhere to put thoughts, ideas, links etc on disaster ontologies.

0) Abbreviations used below:

- **SBTF:** [Standby Task Force](#) - volunteer crisismapping group that collects, collates, verifies and summarises data for disasters.
- **GIS:** [Geographic Information System](#). Systems around the location of things, e.g. towns, water points etc.
- **WWHGD:** [World Wide Human Geography Data working group](#). "making appropriate information available at the appropriate scales to promote human security"
- **ReliefWeb:** UNOCHA's repository of humanitarian data and analysis.
- **API:** [Application Programming Interface](#). An online interface that lets computer programs access data directly, i.e. without people having to mouseclick lots to view or use it.

1) Are SBTF Ushahidi deployment datasets archived in a GIS format? Each deployment is unique and might result in data that fit in different places in the WWHGD taxonomy? (dwl)

- Agreed; we're unlikely to have a deployment that covers the whole taxonomy. What WWHGD are trying to do is have a dataset ready before a disaster hits. This has several complications, not least of which is how up to date that data is. (sjf)
- Hello together, for a greenhorn, what is WWHGD? (svend-jonas) - Thanks Jonas: it's easy to forget that we have so many different backgrounds here... dictionary added above.

2) ReliefWeb are building an API into the ReliefWeb site. How much of the data on ReliefWeb is relevant to these datasets? I can see a case for text-mining a lot of their reports though (sjf).

3) Conflict ontologies are different to disaster ontologies. Examples (hat-tip to Patrick Meier) include KEDS, CAMEO and IDEA

- Penn State has notes at <http://eventdata.psu.edu/home.dir/whatsnew.html>
- Cameo notes at: <http://eventdata.psu.edu/data.dir/cameo.html> and <http://eventdata.psu.edu/papers.dir/isa08.pdf>

4) COD and FOD:

- COD and FOD seem to be unfinished standards (i.e. there isn't a definitive list).
- IASC link is broken on cod website (<http://cod.humanitarianresponse.info/about>); alternative is <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/downloaddoc.aspx?docID=4454&type=pdf>
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