



# Ushahidi POSSE Kit

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<https://github.com/cmacdonell/UshahidiVM>



# Ushahidi

**Open source  
software for  
mapping  
information**



**ELECTION  
MONITORING**

**CRISIS  
RESPONSE**

**ADVOCATING  
HUMAN RIGHTS**


<https://www.ushahidi.com/>

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Address bar: <https://www.usahidi.com/about>

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# ABOUT USHAHIDI



## Helping people raise their voice and those who serve them to listen and respond better

Ushahidi, which translates to "testimony" in Swahili, was developed to map reports of violence in Kenya after the post-election violence in 2008. Since then, thousands have used our crowdsourcing tools to raise their voice. We're a technology leader in Africa, headquartered in Nairobi, with a global team. We are a social enterprise that provides software and services to numerous sectors and civil society to help improve the bottom up flow of information.

We believe that if marginalized people are able to easily communicate to those who aim to serve them...

...then those organizations and governments can more effectively respond to their communities' immediate needs...

...while simultaneously bringing global attention to their problems through the aggregation of their voices.

Angela from Ushahidi

Hi there, how can our team help you with support?

120k

DEPLOYMENTS

10m

POSTS OR "TESTIMONIES"

\$1

PER DIRECT IMPACT

25M

PEOPLE REACHED IN CRITICAL SITUATIONS

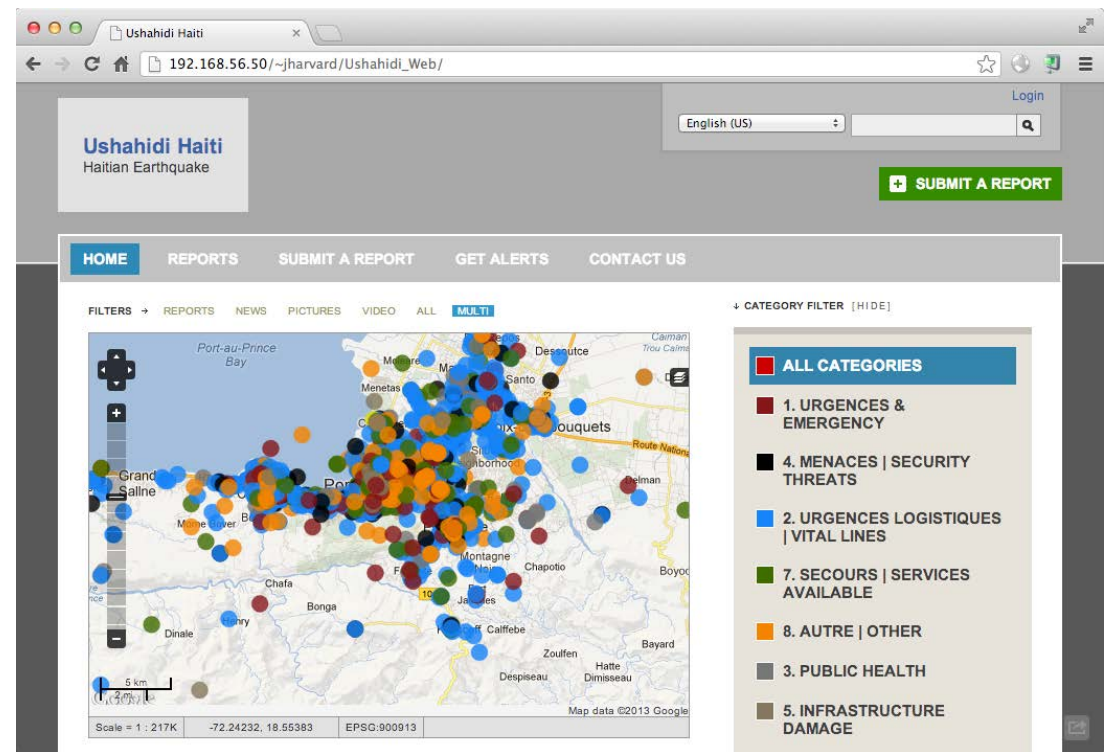
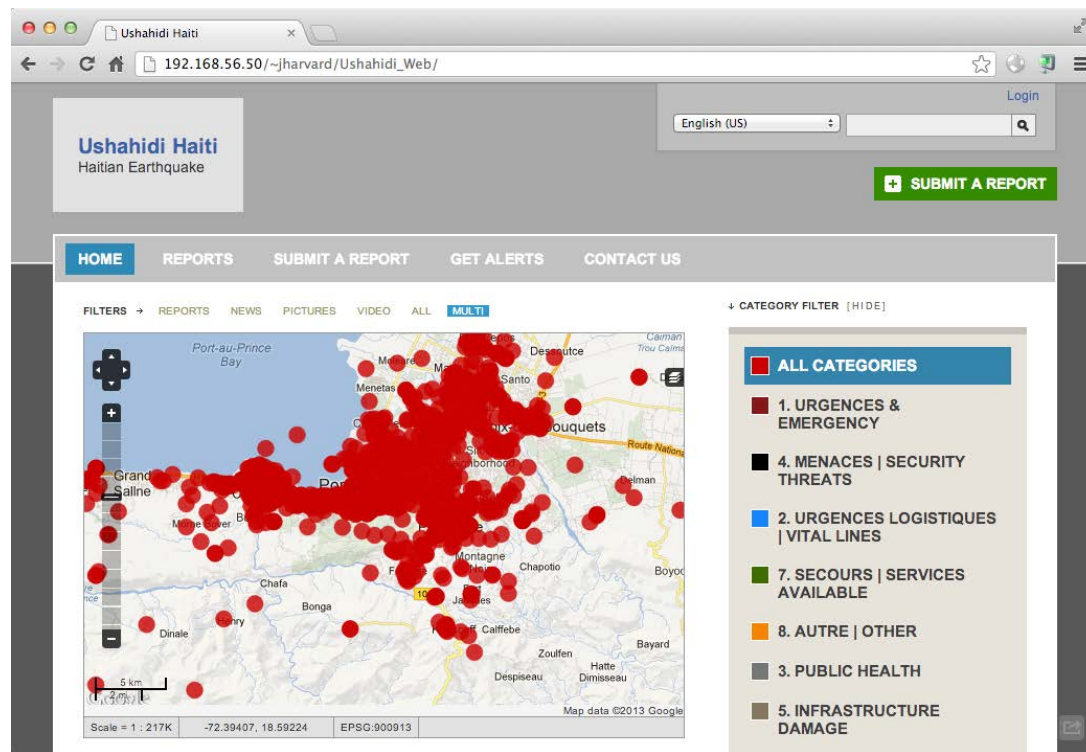
English

<https://www.usahidi.com/about>

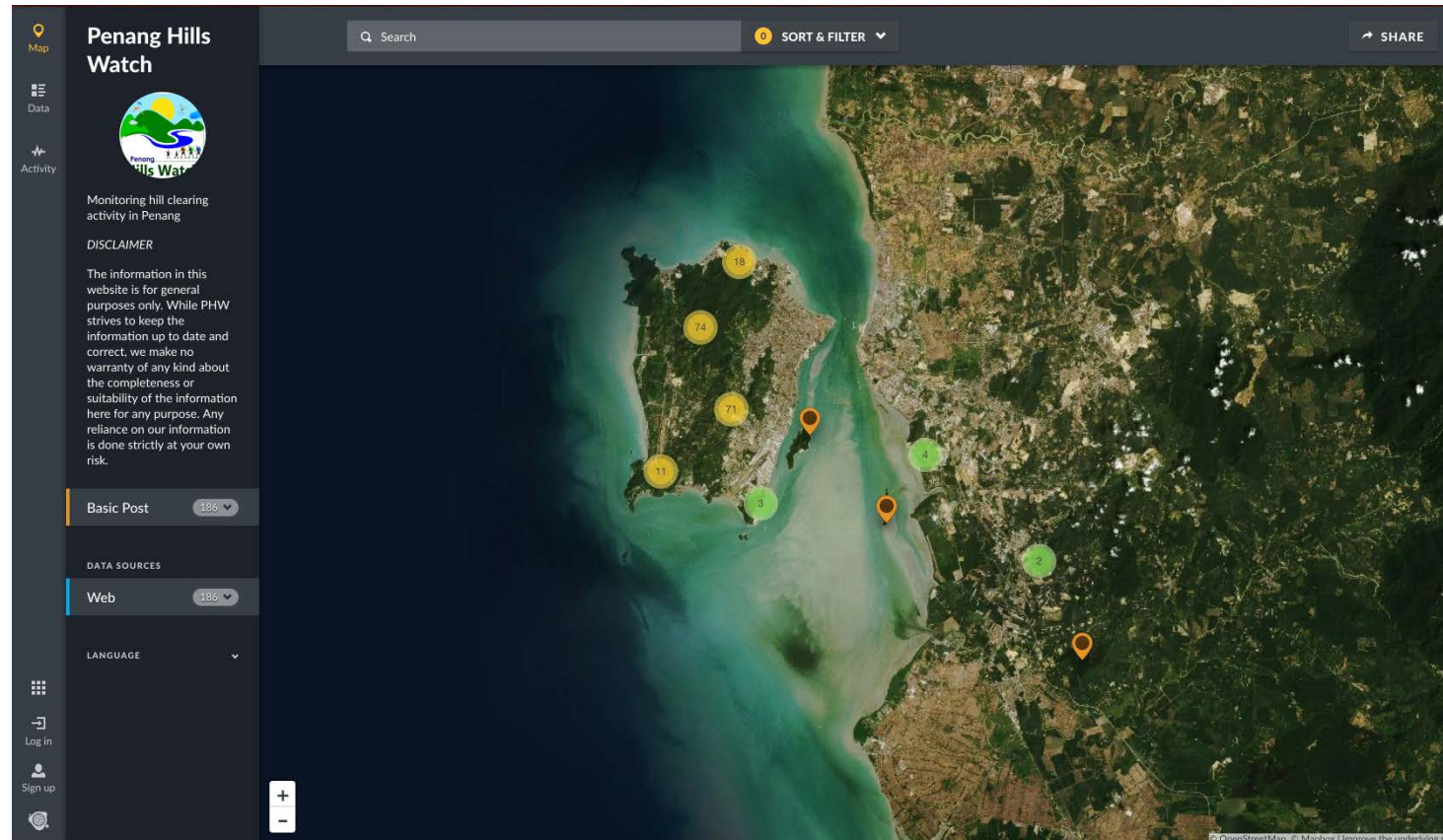
# Ushahidi

- Crowdmapping/Crisis-mapping application
- Started in 2008 in Kenya to provide the public with real-time information about national elections
- Now has thousands of deployments worldwide

# 2012: Students project from MacEwan Univ.



# 2018: Deforestation in Malaysia



<https://www.ushahidi.com/blog/2018/12/10/penang-hills-watch-raising-awareness-about-hill-clearing-activities-in-malaysia>



# Ushahidi and POSSE

- Since 2013 Ushahidi has been part of POSSE
  - Twice we've had visitors from Ushahidi at POSSE events
- Through a POSSE alum, Ushahidi directly supported a hackathon in Puerto Rico this past year
- Towson University, Western New England University and others have used Ushahidi in classes and projects

# Ushahidi

- Ushahidi is a web application that involves modern web and mobile technology
- PHP backend built on the Laravel PHP framework
  - <https://laravel.com/>
- Frontend using modern Javascript libraries and frameworks
- Hosted on Github
  - <https://www.github.com/ushahidi/>
- Open community communication using Gitter (from Github)
  - <https://gitter.im/ushahidi/Community>



# Ushahidi

- Ushahidi offers numerous non-development learning opportunities
- Documentation has inaccuracies that can be clarified/expanded
- Community is active, open and approachable
- Application Programming Interface (API) can be explored outside of the application itself

# POSSE Kit for Ushahidi

- A VirtualBox VM that can be run on a laptop
  - <https://virtualbox.org>
- Ubuntu Linux
- Contains both the front and backend development versions
- Code can be updated to the bleeding edge, if desired
- Step-by-step documentation
  - <https://github.com/cmacdonell/UshahidiVM>
  - Updates and improvements via pull requests are welcome!