Ushahidi

crowdsourcing crisis information

Ushahidi = Testimony

Born out of the post-election violence in Kenya in 2008, used to map reports of violence and peace efforts throughout the country.

Objective is to facilitate the crowdsourcing of (primarily) crisis information and crisis response by providing organizations with a **free web-based platform** that can collect, map, and share data relating to a particular crisis.

Ushahidi provides a platform that increases **transparency** and **accountability** from the bottom up.

Our purpose is to **democratize information** starting with ordinary people.

Ushahidi Calendar

Kenya, January 2008

| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 27 | 27 |

idea, production, launch

blogging and media

violence

Dec. 27 - Kenyan Elections

Dec. 27 - Dec. 30 - Period of uncertainty

Dec. 30 - Jan. 1 - Media blackout

Jan. 10 - 75% of Kenyan bloggers write about Ushahidi

Jan. 12 - MSM pickup: BBC, NPR, Guardian, etc...

Jan. 3 - The idea of Ushahidi

Jan. 5 - Ushahidi discussed

Jan. 6 - Ushahidi prototype

Jan. 9 - Ushahidi launched

Jan.10 - Added functionality (RSS, SMS, etc...)

Jan. 10 - Kenyan SMS shortcode partnership

Jan. 22 - Ushahidi blog added

Jan. 26 - Ushahidi timeline feature

Our Guiding Values
openness | innovation | community

Social Impact

- Enabling the wider coverage of crisis (and other situations e.g. elections, MP performance) that would otherwise be **unreported** or underreported

- Creating an easy-to-use tool that is **freely** and **instantly available** to individuals, NGOs and other organizations allowing them to focus on mobilizing the content and the response

- Facilitate **transparency** and **accountability** by amplifying citizen voices with a consumer-focused tool, designed with areas with limited access in mind

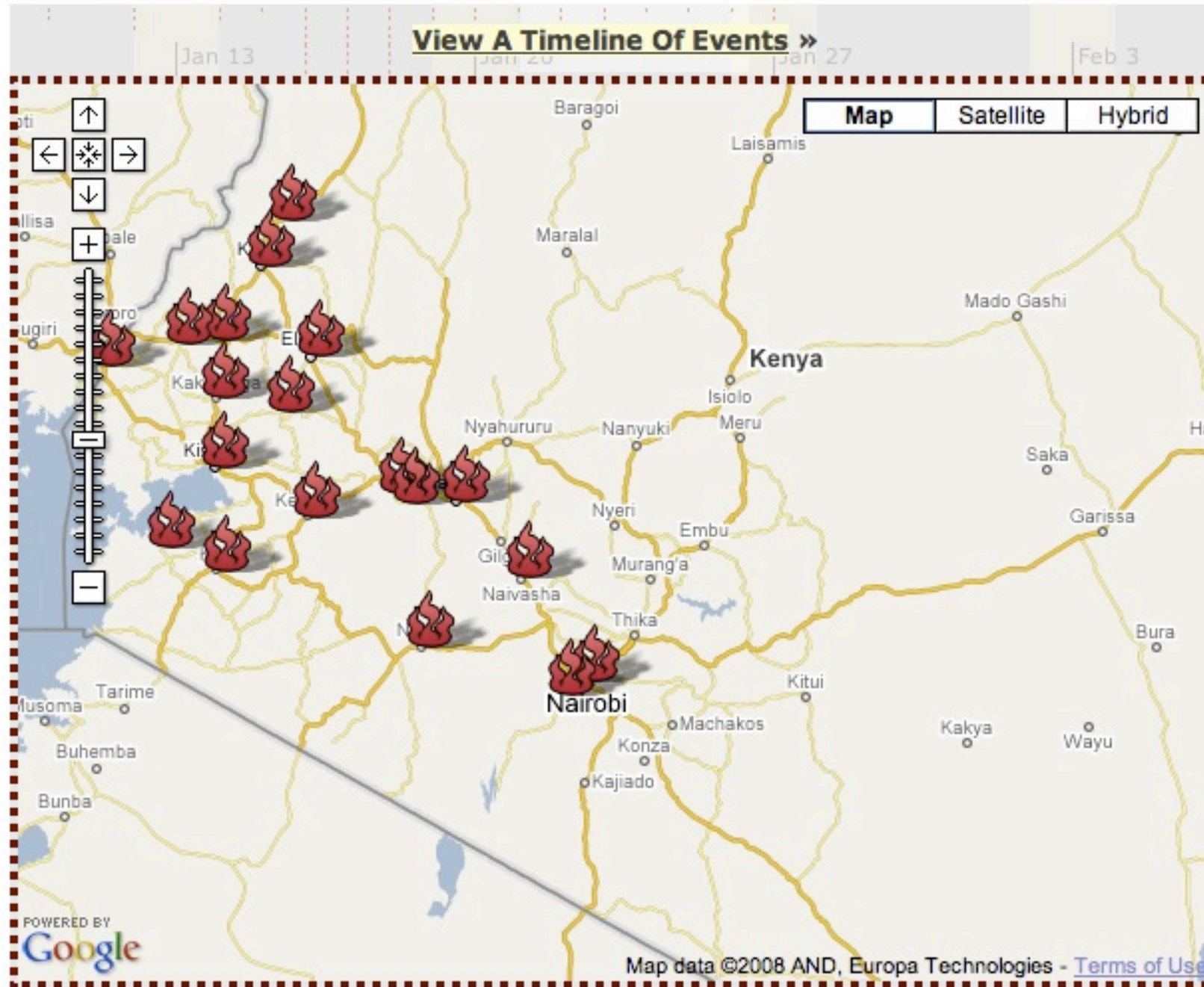- Developing ability for stakeholders in a particular situation to **share** and **find** data

Ushahidi

Click on the dots to view reports

Microsoft® Virtual Earth™

From: Dec 2008 ▾ To: Jan 2009 ▾

Oct 2008   Nov 2008   Dec 2008   Jan 2009

2008   2009

All Categories

40

20

0

6 Dec 11 Dec 16 Dec 21 Dec 26 Dec 31 Dec 5 Jan 10 Jan 15 Jan 20 Jan 25 Jan 30 Jan

Overview of reported incidents over time

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

↓ CATEGORY FILTER

■ All Categories
■ Deaths
■ Israeli Ground Forces
■ Civilians
■ International Aid
■ Air Strikes
■ Announcements
■ Rocket Attacks
■ Israeli Casualties
■ Palestinian Casualties
■ Stats
■ Protests
■ Twitter Reports
■ Israeli Soldier Casualities

Submit an Incident

Submit via SMS | Twitter

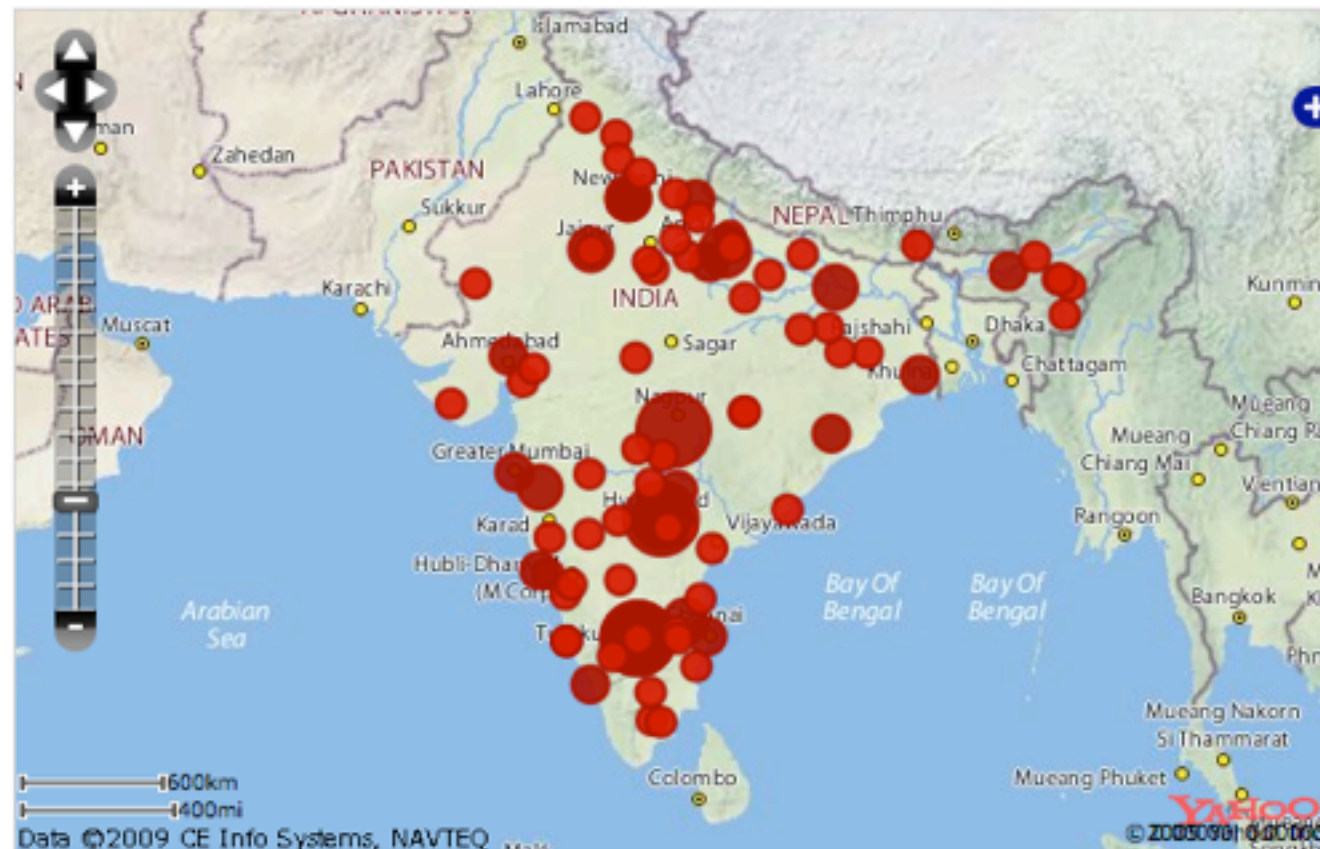**Incidents** (from map above listed chronologically)

TITLE   LOCATION   Date

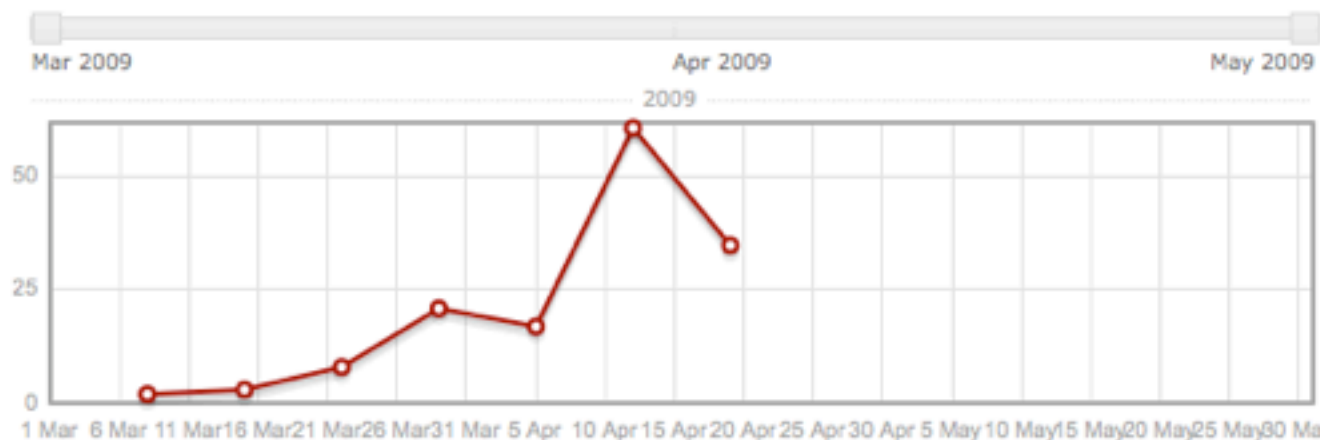Toll in Gaza war rises to 984 Palestinians   Gaza   Jan 14

Official & mainstream news

VOTE REPORT INDIA

MEDIA FILTER → **REPORTS**   NEWS   PICTURES   VIDEO   ALL   ☐ SHARE

Click on the dots to view reports

From: **Mar 2009** ⬍   To: **May 2009** ⬍

Mar 2009   Apr 2009   May 2009

2009

1 Mar 6 Mar 11 Mar16 Mar21 Mar26 Mar31 Mar 5 Apr 10 Apr 15 Apr20 Apr25 Apr30 Apr 5 May10 May15 May20 May25 May30 May

↓ CATEGORY FILTER

■ All Categories
■ Forged Vote (FORG)
■ Violence (VIOL)
■ Voter Bribing (BRIB)
■ Voting Machine Problems (EVOM)
■ Other Irregularities (OTHR)
■ Inflammatory Speech (HATE)
■ Election Commission Interventions (ECIN)
■ Voter Name Missing (MISS)
☐ What Went Well (WELL)

REPORT IN FOUR WAYS

- By sending a message starting with VoteReport to **5676785**
- By sending an email to report@votereport.in
- By sending a tweet with the hashtag #votereport
- By filling a form at the website

EXAMPLE SMS REPORT

votereport #Pune #VIOL Violence in Pune's Boat Club area. 6 injured. Situation under control. Source: NDTV.

For more details, refer to our reporting guide.

Submit an Incident

Happening Right Now In Afghanistan

MEDIA FILTER → REPORTS   NEWS   PICTURES   VIDEO   ALL

Click on the dots to view reports

Turkmenistan
Türkmenabat
Ashgabat
Türksünoda
Tursunzoda
Kulob
Tajikistan
Mashhad
Andkhvoy
Mazar-e Sharif
Sheberghan
Baghlan
Feyzabad
Meymaneh
Charikar
Bala
Morghab
Chaghcharan
Panjab
Lam
Ghuran
Herat
Afghanistan
Islamabad
Farah
Pakistan
Lahore
Quetta
Jhang
Google   Map data ©2009 AND, NFGIS, Europa Technologies - Terms of Use
73.52051, 30.78904

From: Aug 2009   To: Aug 2009

Aug 2009   Sep 2009   Oct 2009   Nov 2009 Dec 2009

48
2009
47
46
45
1 Aug   6 Aug   11 Aug   16 Aug   21 Aug   26 Aug   31 Au

CATEGORY FILTER

- ■ All Categories
- ■ Vote Tampering: Vote buying, ballot box stuffing, fake IDs
- ■ Disturbances: Violence, intimidation, harassment, roadblocks
- ■ Defamation: Inflammatory speech, posters, billboards defaced
- ■ Voting Access: Station closed, voting suspended, list altered
- ■ Illegal Campaigning: in public places, polling booths, religious places
- | What went well
- ■ Campaign Events
- ■ Citizens Speak

Afghans go to the polls tomorrow

KABUL (PAN): Millions of Afghans -- undeterred by threats from

How to participate

SUBMIT AN INCIDENT

you send us an Email to 'contact@aliveinafghanistan.org'

you write a message on twitter to @aliveinafghanistan

You send us a text message to 93 79 404 0569

or you simply fill out the form here

Who we are

Alive in Afghanistan has no political interest other than to promote transparency. We're an independent, unaffiliated, non-partisan, all-volunteer project, and the result of the hard work and collaboration of many partners and individuals. read more

User Feed Stream

Three election officials hurt, materials burnt in Nuristan
Aug 19 2009 20:46 | (Asadabad)

Election official among a dozen killed
Aug 19 2009 20:44 | (Qalat)

Taliban threats may bar many from voting
Aug 19 2009 16:49 | (Gardez)

District chief among two killed in Kandahar blast
Aug 19 2009 14:07 | (Kandahar)

152 of 643 polling centres stay closed in southern zone
Aug 19 2009 12:33 | (Kandahar)

The People of Jalalabad Face Electricity Problems
Aug 19 2009 11:00 | (Jalalabad)

A mother: No more war
Aug 19 2009 10:00 | (Uruzgan)

Driver: People should be consulted in appointments
Aug 19 2009 10:00 | (Uruzgan)

Haji Muhammad Wali: Confidence in election
Aug 19 2009 10:00 | (Uruzgan)

A seamstress: Will vote despite threats
Aug 19 2009 10:00 | (Tirinkot)

User Photos

News

Taliban kill police chief in Afghanistan - Daily Times details>>

Journalists Injured in Afghan Bombing - New York Times details>>

AFGHANISTAN: Elections could hit health services – ministry - IRINnews.org details>>

Australian troops kill Afghan officer - ABC Online details>>

Anti-corruption 'Mr Bean' candidate Ramazan Bashardost eyes presidency - Times Online details>>

US sees 'encouraging signs' before Afghan vote - AFP details>>

President Karzai's supporters 'buy' votes for Afghanistan election - Times Online details>>

Afghan govt. hires tribesmen to ensure security during ... - All India Radio details>>

Poland considers sending strategic reserve to Afghanistan - Xinhua details>>

Hamid Karzai 'will not' win Afghan election outright - Telegraph.co.uk details>>

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STOP STOCK-OUTS!

Ensure Access to Essential Medicines for All

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DISCUSSION · EVENTS · FEATURED · IN THE NEWS · KENYA · STOCK-OUT STORIES · UGANDA · UNCATEGORIZED · UPDATES · ZAMBIA

Snap survey reveals medicine stockouts still plague Kenya, Malawi, Uganda and Zambia

↓ CATEGORY FILTER

- All Categories
- First-line antimalarials (AMs)
- Zinc 20mg tablet
- Benzathine penicillin
- First line ARVs
- Metronidazole 200mg tablet
- Ciprofloxacin 250 or 500mg tablet
- Amoxicillin
- Ceftriaxone 250mg or 1g vial
- Cotrimoxazole suspension
- ORS - Diarrhea

Use the zoom scroller on the left side of the map to have a closer look and move the map around by clicking and dragging. Clicking on a red "hotspot" will show you more detail. Larger circles represent a greater number of stock-outs.

During 'pill check week', researchers visited public health institutions countrywide and checked on the availability of a list of 10 essential medicines. These are medicines that should be readily available in public health facilities.

EVENTS

Kisumu residents demand for essential medicin
Tuesday 14 July 2009 Kisumu: People thronged the Pollyview Hotel in Kisumu, the third...

SMS pill check findings released to Kenyan med
The Kenyan team held a successful press conference on 30/06/09 with 22 journalists...

Mombasa forum a huge success!
The Kenyan team organised a successful public for in Mombasa, the second largest...

More Events

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Sign up to receive breaking news as well as receive other site updates!

Enter your email address... GO

Awards:

2008

NetSquared N2Y3 winner

Knight Batten award

WeMedia GameChangers award

USAID Development 2.0 award

2009

Netexplorateurs award

Kenya open source award

European Software Institute award

Knight Foundation News Challenge

Featured in:

BBC

TheWorld

npr

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

The Washington Post

PBS

Guardian Unlimited

W3C

DAILY NATION

Forbes

GlobalVoices

DIE ZEIT

The Economist

ChristianityToday

Technology Review PUBLISHED BY MIT

INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

Rue89

boingboing A Directory Of Wonderful Things

FP Foreign Policy

Le Monde

WIRED

Ushahidi

Platform Benchmarks

Jan 2008: Initial Ushahidi deployment in Kenya's post-election crisis

Jun 2008: Began gathering developers to rebuild the platform

Oct 2008: Launched Ushahidi Engine v0.1 ("Eldoret")

Nov 2008: Deployed alpha version into **DR Congo**

Jan 2009: Ushahidi used by **Al Jazeera** in Gaza

Jan 2009: Alpha testing with multiple organizations begins

Apr 2009: Launched v0.8 of the Ushahidi Engine ("Kisumu")

Apr 2009: Ushahidi used to monitor **Indian** elections

May 2009: Ushahidi used to track **Swine Flu**

August 2009: Launched v0.9 (Goma) and used to monitor elections in **Gabon** and **Afghanistan**

September 2009: **400+ downloads** of Ushahidi code

Current sites to date: **200+**

Average users per month: 10,000

October 2008 - Jun 2009: Several iterations **beyond crisis** use include: nominations of Peace Heroes (Kenya), mapping art events (Kenya), drug stockouts (Malawi, Zambia, Uganda, Kenya), mobile phone company service monitoring (Philippines)
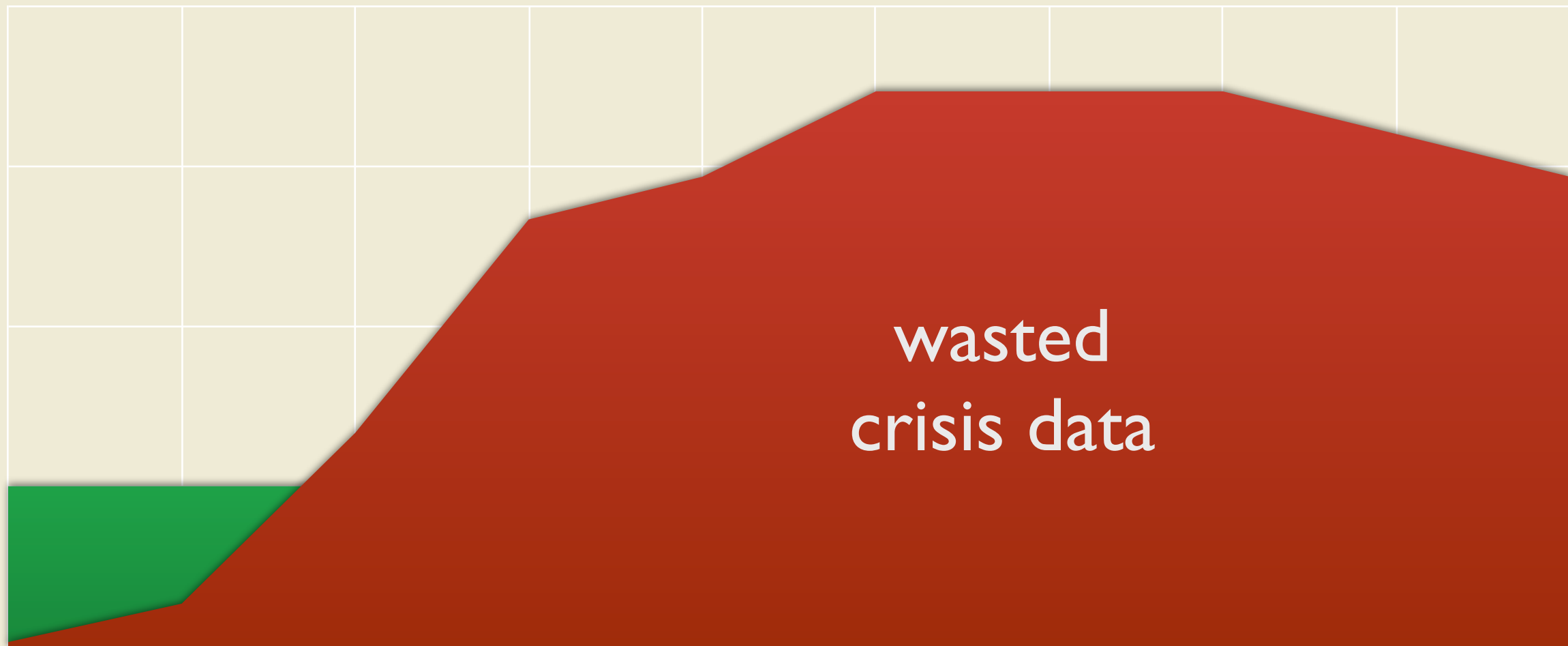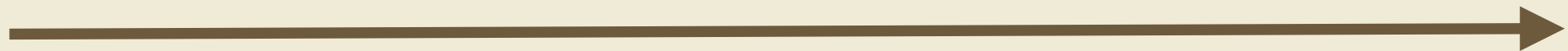
"Our capacity to report eyewitness information in vastly increasing"

Kaushal Jhalla & Chris Blow,
the Ushahidi volunteers who initially
thought of Swift River

Swift River:

enhancing Ushahidi's ability to find the truth

CROWDSOURCED INFORMATION

CROWDSOURCED FILTER

REFINED RESULTS

WEIGHTED RESULTS
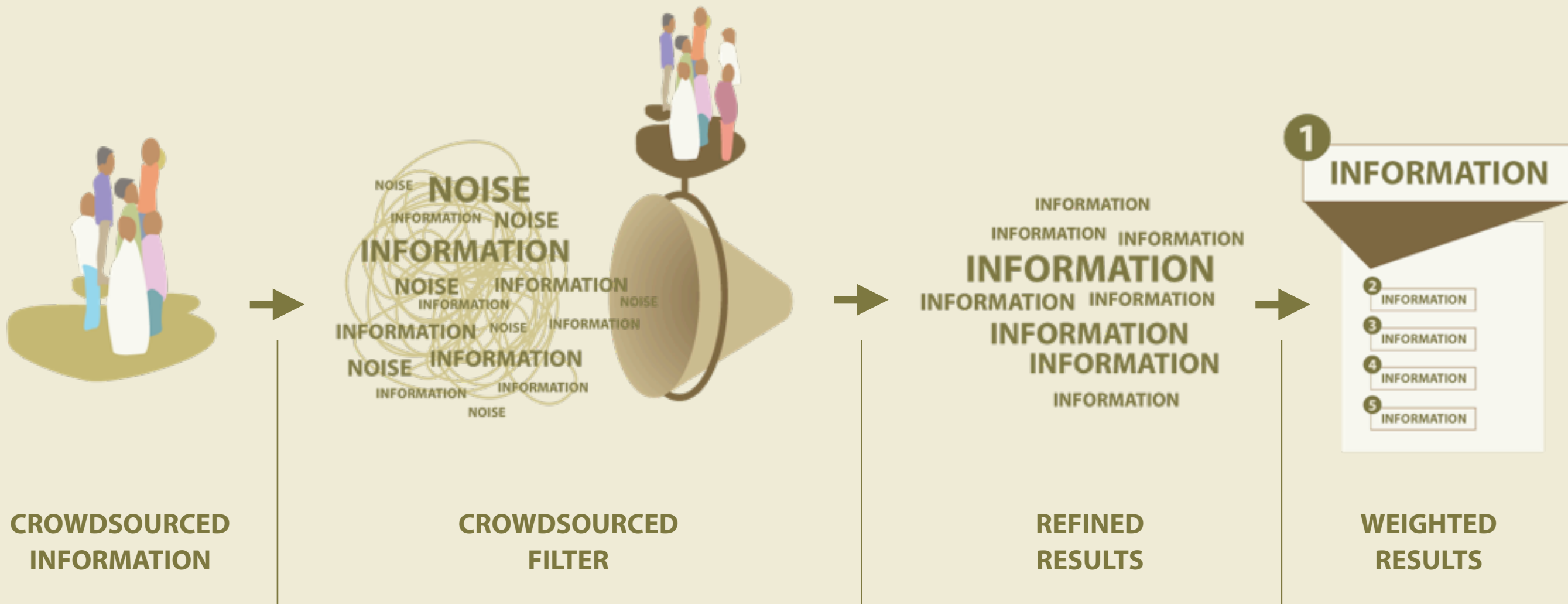
Africa Matters

Ushahidi has a **history** in Kenya

A Kenyan presence has allowed us to **engage** more Kenyan developers and **test** the platform in greater detail on the ground

Tools need to be built **in** Africa

African developers want an **African** open source project to volunteer on

Partnerships

Ushahidi has had exploratory conversations with:

- the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Sudan,
- the United Nations (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) in both Columbia and Kenya,
- the UN High Commission for Human Rights (UNHCR),
- the International Forum for Election Systems (IFES),
- the European Center for Conflict Prevention (ECCP),
- the Global Platform for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC)
- Mercy Corps.

These types of relationships require someone with a much deeper knowledge of humanitarian early warning and response than anyone on the team currently has.

Ushahidi

Patrick Meier

A third-year PhD Candidate at The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy and a Doctoral Research Fellow at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) where he works on crisis mapping, early warning and humanitarian technology applications.

Potential Risks

- Overwhelming demand for additional tech support for people who use Ushahidi

- Sustaining and managing the open source community – demanding

Ushahidi

Thank You