crowdsourcing crisis information
mobile.crisis.reporting.
Ushahidi

Send reports via:
mobile phone :: email :: web
FrontlineSMS + Ushahidi

SMS => Cloud

SMS reporting and feedback cycle in Ushahidi v0.1

1. Local "tech hub" receives SMS message through a local phone into a local internet connected computer, running FrontlineSMS
2. FrontlineSMS syncs via the internet to the Ushahidi web servers, and the SMS message is now visible online.
3. Approved incoming reports show up on the map on the Ushahidi Engine.
4. Administrators can "bounceback" SMS messages for more information to the original sender. (done through Clickatell for cost savings)
5. Clickatell API

SMS text message reports are sent to the local Ushahidi phone number.
Protesters gathered in groups and attempted to walk into the town centre; police fired live shots and tear gas canisters to disperse them. Three protesters were seriously injured and one shot dead.

A 13-year old boy was laid to rest next to his uncle’s house; the burial was attended by hundreds of residents who wailed and lit up bonfires.

Police battled youths who set fire to roadblocks; the police shot indiscriminately, “targeting anyone on sight”; one man was shot in the stomach as he stood in front of his house.
Our Goals

- Create a way for everyday Kenyans to report incidents of violence that they saw using the tools they had (mobile phones)
- Create an archive of news and reports around those same events
- Show where the majority of the violence was happening
Who is your Hero?

After the general elections of December 2007 violence sparked all over Kenya. Neighbours turned on neighbours and friends became enemies. But not everyone succumbed to the madness in those dark hours.

Do you know a hero? Someone who organized a peace march, a peace song, gave someone shelter or stood up for members of other communities?

Do you know someone who did something extraordinary to restore peace and social cohesion?

Let other people get inspired by this initiative and Nominate your Peace Hero or find out How it works.

Unsung Peace Heroes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maureen Auma</td>
<td>kibera</td>
<td>Dec 5 2008</td>
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news

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
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Made in Africa
if it works in Africa
it will work anywhere
Lessons

• Mapping accuracy and value of geo-location

• Verification is difficult, but can be achieved with local people involvement + NGO’s

• Create a feedback loop - SMS & RSS alerts to mobiles and emails

• Offline, online and mobile strategy
What are we trying to achieve?
Ensuring that others don’t have to start from scratch, like we did.
Ushahidi Crisis Mapping Engine

Data Types
- Citizen Generated
- News Media
- NGO data
- Government
- Public APIs
  - Flickr
  - YouTube
  - Twitter

Input Methods
- SMS
- Email
- Web form
- API
- RSS
- MMS
- Direct input

Output Methods
- Map
- Timeline
- SMS Alerts
- RSS
- Email

Ushahidi
Free Open Source Platform For Collaboration
Way Forward...

• **Growing** the community that supports Ushahidi

• **> Tech features & Dev.** - Smartphones (Android, Iphone S60) J2ME

• **Geo-RSS**

• Instedd’s **SMS Geo-Chat**, Rapid SMS & Java Rosa

• **Freedom Fone integration - Audio** => SMS
Thank You

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