

Lower the impact of aggravating factors in crisis situations thanks to adaptive foresight and decision-support tools

D4.3: Data collection – Manual inputs

For the attention of the Research Executive Agency

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Snowball aims at lowering the impact of aggravating factors in crisis situations thanks to adaptive foresight and decision-support tools.

The project runs from March 2014 to February 2017, it involves 11 partners and is coordinated by Gedicom.

More information on the project will soon be found at http://www.snowball-project.eu.

Abstract

Snowball aims to develop a software solution for crisis management. Basically, it consists in collecting data, store data within a database, display data and simulation results and provides IT systems in order to better manage the crisis. Data collection is based on Twitter data stream, meteorological and seismic data sources, and it also relies on manual inputs. In fact first-responders and grid operators provide consistent and reliable data from the field. The web portal for data collection allows any stakeholders to authenticate and to declare an event through out a web form.





Executive summary

The web portal for manual inputs allows any stakeholder to report a crisis event or to bring additional information to a crisis event. The 'Event web form' has been designed in order to optimize the user response in a crisis situation. It is possible to define the event area on a map, to fill comments, upload a picture, etc. About more quantitative indicators, it was thought that it is hard to evaluate damages and costs during a crisis. Then in many cases, it is proposed to use a simplified scale of value from zero to five or zero to ten.

The web portal is also a secured platform that allows users to manage their own account. In order to define access rights to the portal, it was necessary to correctly apprehend crisis organization in European countries. A crisis organization model has been defined in order share the same platform whatever would be the simulation country (Greece, Finland, Poland or Hungary).





Table of content

A	bbre	eviation	S	9
D	efini	itions		9
Ir	ntrod	duction		10
1	C	Organiz	ation	11
2	ι	Jser ins	tance	13
	2.1	De	scription	13
	2.2	Use	er profiles	15
	2	2.2.1	Administrator	15
	2	2.2.2	Crisis cell operator	15
		2.2.3	Crisis cell manager	
		2.2.4	Authority L1-L2-L3	
		2.2.5	Agency manager	
		2.2.6		
			Agency operator	
	2.3		aphical user interface	
3	S	Site inst	ance	18
	3.1	De	scription	18
	3.2	Gra	aphical user interface	18
4	C	Crisis in	stance	20
	4.1	De	scription	20
	4.2	Gra	aphical user interface	20
5	E	Event in	stance	22
	5.1	De	scription	22
	5.2	Gra	aphical user interface	23
		5.2.1	Focus on human report	
		5.2.2		
	כ	۷.۷.۷	Focus on grid report	24





	5.2.3	Focus on weather report	25
	5.2.4	Focus on storm parameters	
	5.2.5	Focus on flooding parameters	26
	5.2.6	Focus on volcanic eruption parameters	26
6	Conclusi	on	27



List of Figures

Figure 1: Crisis organization	11
Figure 2: Severity and geographical scales	12
Figure 3: Use case diagram for Administrator profile	13
Figure 4: Use case diagram for stakeholders	14
Figure 5: List of users	16
Figure 6: Create a new user	17
Figure 7: Authentication	17
Figure 8: List of sites	18
Figure 9: Create a new site	19
Figure 10: List of crisis	21
Figure 11: Create a new crisis	21
Figure 12: Focus on human report	24
Figure 13: Focus on grid report	24
Figure 14: Focus on weather report	25
Figure 15: Focus storm parameters	25
Figure 16: Focus on flooding parameters	26
Figure 17: Focus on seismic activity and volcanism	26





List of Tables

Table 1. Fromt description fields	2.2
Table 1: Event description fields	



ABBREVIATIONS

API Application Programming Interface

DSS Decision Support System

ELDB Event Log DataBase

ESB Enterprise Service Bus

ETL Extract, Transform and Load

FTP File Transfer Protocol

GML Geography Mark-up Language

GUI Graphical User Interface

HDFS Hadoop Distributed File System

HMI Human Machine Interface

JSON JavaScript Object Notation

LDAP Lightweight Directory Access Protocol

URL Uniform Resource Locator

WKT Well-Known Text

DEFINITIONS

First Responder: A first responder is an employee of an emergency service who

is likely to be among the first people to arrive at and assist at the scene of an emergency, such as an accident, natural

disaster, or terrorist attack.

Grid Operator: A grid operator is an entity that oversees the delivery of a

resource (energy, water, telecom service).





INTRODUCTION

This document describes the prototype of the web portal that allows first responders, grid operators and emergency planners to report events and feed the ELDB.

The software prototype is developed in Java J2EE and deployed on Apache web server. It implements the following frameworks:

- Spring security: to easily manage access rights to the web pages,
- Spring internationalization: for a multi-languages portal. Basically, only the English version has been implemented.

In order to manage user authentication, a LDAP server has been deployed.

As described in the abstract, the first chapter of this document is dedicated to the crisis organization. Then the following chapters are dedicated to:

- Administration: deals with user and site management on the web portal.
- Data collection: consists in a web form that will fit to any crisis event.



1 **ORGANIZATION**

A good organization and well defined roles for stakeholders are the first step to tend to a quick crisis resolution. It is very important that the information system would fit to the local emergency organization. The need analysis that has been written in close collaboration with end-users has made possible to extrapolate a common crisis organization for European countries.

The following schema represents the various actors of the crisis. It is distinguished three main categories of actors:

- Emergency planner: His role is to manage crisis resolution from the crisis center by obtaining validation from authorities and by coordinating agencies on the field. The crisis manager and the crisis operator are two different roles. Only the crisis manager can declare an occurring "crisis" on the web portal.
- Agency: Any governmental or non-governmental entity that participates in crisis. It regroups first-responders, as well as grid operators. Two user profiles are available within an agency: manager and operator.
- Authority: Official representative that is in position to validate an emergency plan to secure people or to solve a crisis situation. Three responsibility levels are defined in order to adapt to the severity and the geographical scale of the crisis.

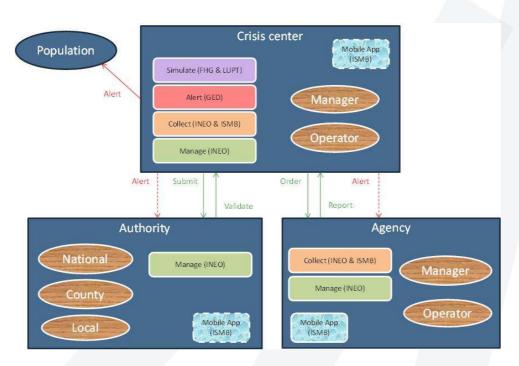


Figure 1: Crisis organization



The schema below aims to define the authority in charge of a crisis according to the crisis severity and the geographical scale. It also lists the various organizations that could contribute to the crisis resolution.

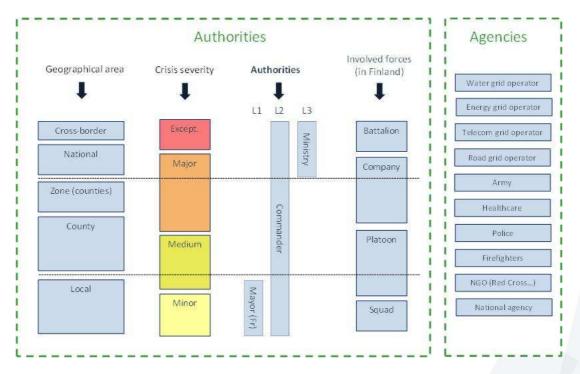


Figure 2: Severity and geographical scales

An internal study with end-users reveals that the mayor's implication in the crisis resolution process is a French particularity. It also looks as if the implication of the ministry desk would be a very rare event. It could for example occur in case of a cross-border crisis. Most of crisis events are under control of the commander, equivalent of the prefect in France. In order to manage complex action workflows, and different level of responsibility, three authority levels have been defined.



2 USER INSTANCE

The administrator of the web platform has to configure and administrate all the end-users of the solution.

2.1 Description

A user instance is a way to authenticate stakeholders and to manage rights on the Dashboard. In fact, as it is described below, there are several user profiles.

Here below are listed the different fields that will allow administrators to define a user:

- First-name,
- Name,
- Email,
- Mobile phone number,
- Phone number,
- Organization,
- Role,
- Country,
- Postal code,
- City,
- Address,
- Predefined user profile in the Dashboard.

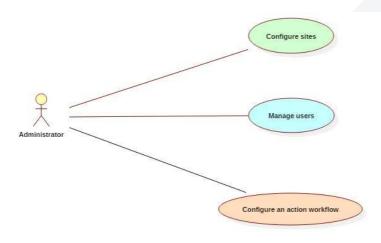


Figure 3: Use case diagram for Administrator profile