

MULTIAGENT SIMULATIONS FOR INTEROPERABILITY DURING DISASTER MANAGEMENT



A gaming and simulation framework for designing, testing and validating SOPs for disaster management.

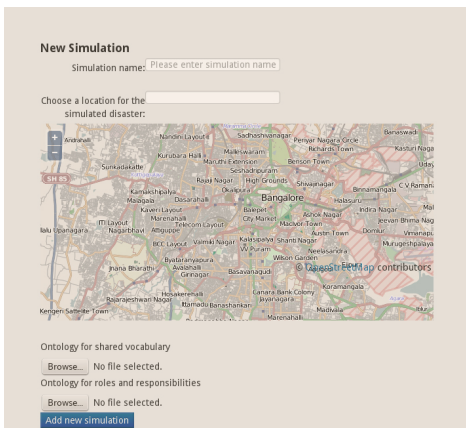
OBJECTIVE

This project uses a gaming and simulation framework for designing, testing and validating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for disaster management which adhere to the local institutional support frameworks, and are process and semantically inter-operable.

We use a gaming and computerized simulation methods in conjunction with each other for participatory design of interoperable standards for disaster management. Gaming methods provide a platform for experiential learning for the participants, and for validation of SOPs through what-if scenarios. Computerized simulations help test the efficacy of the shared vocabularies which is used by agencies involved in disaster management.

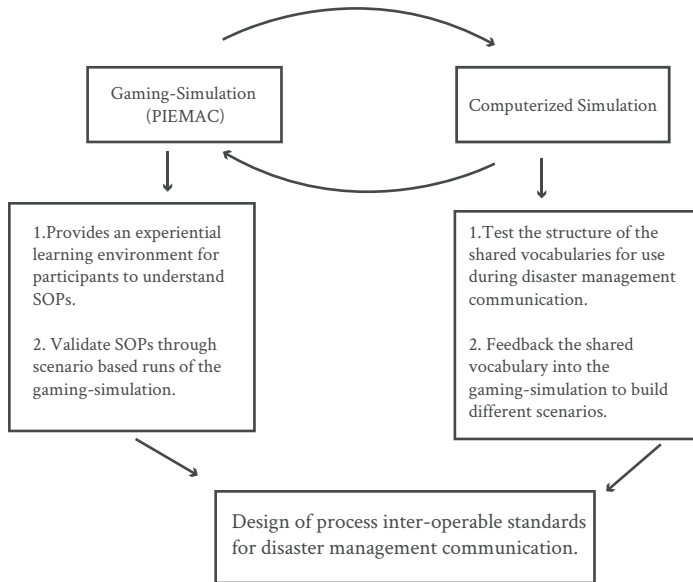
Intended Audience
Policy Makers

Keywords
SOP, policy, PIEMAC, shared vocabulary



APPROACH

To test Standard Operating Protocols and their operation during disaster management, we use games to collect data about messaging constructs – how do agencies communicate with each other? We then build a shared vocabulary for communication that the agencies can use for semantic interoperability. A shared vocabulary informs participants about whom they can communicate with, what their message constructs ought to be, and what file format of communication they could use, among other things. Using the computerized simulations, we test the shared vocabularies under different disaster scenarios.



CASE STUDY

We developed a simulation tool to test the effect of use of shared vocabularies on communication during disaster management. The shared vocabularies were built using messages from sessions of the PIEMAC game. The computerized simulation developed was used to test the efficacy of this shared vocabulary under different disaster scenarios, and the simulation results were analysed to provide recommendations for effectively designing the shared vocabularies.



OUTPUT

This effort utilises PIEMAC as a crucial component in the framework, as a game for data collection. Two key outputs are the simulation itself, and recommendations for the Standard Operating Procedures.

Acknowledgements

This project was funded by the Natural Resources Data Management System, Department of Science and Technology.

Collaborations

DST, IIIT-B