Humanitarian Data Exchange

OCHA

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

humdata.org | @humdata | hdx@un.org

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The future we want on geospatial information & services for disasters

Side Event on

Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

at the

Sixth Session of the Committee of Experts on UN-GGIM

Monday, August 1 2016 | UN Headquarters, New York

Outline

- The future we want
- What is OCHA
- The IASC Common Operational Datasets
- Humanitarian Data Exchange
- Humanitarian Data Exchange and the Common Operational Datasets

The future we want

- Greater availability of authoritative, trusted and up-to-date geographic dataset for use before, during and after emergencies and disasters strike
- Increased open sharing of these key geographic datasets on platforms such as HDX

What is OCHA

- OCHA's mission:
  - Mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies.
  - Advocate the rights of people in need.
  - Promote preparedness and prevention.
  - Facilitate sustainable solutions.
- Established by UN General Assembly resolution 46/182
- OCHA is the secretariat for the Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

IASC Common Operational Datasets

- Core set of data needed to support operations and decision making
- OCHA is the “Guardian” of CODs
  - OCHA facilitates distribution of the “best” available CODs in emergencies and disasters
  - OCHA also manages forums for updates and distribution communication
- CODs include geographic data on administrative boundaries, populated places, transportation network, hydrology and hypsography
- Envision a future with greater availability of authoritative, trusted and up-to-date geographic dataset for use before, during and after emergencies and disasters strike

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What is HDX

- OCHA's platform for sharing humanitarian data
- Objective is to make humanitarian data easy to **find**, easy to **share** and easy to **use for analysis**
- Short history
  - Launched at the Open Knowledge Festival in Berlin in 2014.
  - Over **176,000** visitors since launch
  - Approximately **2,700** visitors per week
  - About **one in four** visitor downloads a dataset
  - Over **3,400** registered users
  - Over **230** organizations sharing over **4,000** datasets

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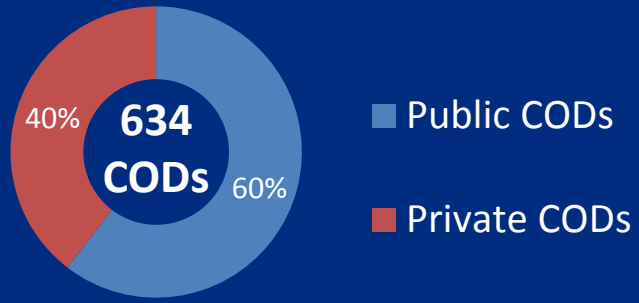
HDX and the CODs

- HDX is the home of the CODs
- 634 CODs on the platform
- 383 public, 281 private
- from 36 OCHA offices representing 90 countries
- 57% of private CODs due to quality issues like no source, broken link and corrupt files
- Other 43% are intentionally made private by data providers.
- Envision a future where open sharing of key geographic datasets becomes the norm



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