Volunteered geographic information, community engagement and bushfire preparation

Student project

Key Topics:
- communities [1]
- local knowledge [2]
- volunteering [3]

Volunteered geographic information, community engagement and bushfire preparation [4]

Billy Haworth completed his CRC PhD with the University of Sydney in 2016, which looked at volunteered geographic information, community engagement and bushfire preparation. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of Billy's thesis see https://billyhaworth.com/publications/

Volunteered geographic information (VGI) refers to the widespread engagement of citizens in the creation of geographic information, often through social media, smartphones and online mapping tools. It represents a shift in the ways information is created, shared, used and experienced, and has important implications for disaster management. This research examines the potential role of VGI in fostering community engagement in bushfire preparation in Tasmania, where VGI has potential to aid in building risk awareness, community connectedness, and increased disaster resilience.

Research team

Student researcher

Dr Billy Haworth

[5]

RESEARCH LEADER

Full description

Billy Haworth completed his CRC PhD with the University of Sydney in 2016, which looked at volunteered geographic information, community engagement and bushfire preparation. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of Billy's thesis see https://billyhaworth.com/publications/. Natural disaster events remind us of the importance of geographic information in all aspects of disaster management. A new stream of online user-generated geospatial data termed volunteered geographic information (VGI) presents new opportunities for the creation and dissemination of disaster-related geographic data from a dense network of intelligent observers. Authorities and individuals are already embracing VGI technologies, creating a new landscape of geo-data production and knowledge sharing for crisis events. VGI technologies enable rapid sharing of diverse geographic information for disaster management at a fraction of the resource costs associated with traditional data collection and dissemination, but they also present a number of important challenges. These include a lack of data quality assurance and issues of data management, privacy and security. There is an urgent need for researchers to explore and comprehend the implications of these data and data practices for disaster management. Billy is now a researcher and lecturer in geography and disaster management at the University of Manchester.

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COMMUNICATION, COMMUNITIES

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24 JUN 2015

13 MAY 2015
Key Topics

VGI refers to the creation and sharing of geographic information by community members, mainly through social media, smartphones and online mapping tools. VGI represents a shift in the ways information is created, shared, used and experienced. Detailed interviews with 13 emergency management professionals from 8 organisations across 5 Australian states provided insights into the impacts of VGI on OEM.

Non-traditional volunteering: Volunteered geographic information (VGI) and bushfire preparation [18]

This research explores the potential role of VGI for fostering community engagement in bushfire preparation and building individual empowerment and disaster resilience in Tasmania.

Key Topics

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Non-traditional volunteering: Volunteered geographic information (VGI) and bushfire preparation

Resources

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KEY TOPICS

Communication [64], volunteering [3]

Communication [64], communities [1], fire [67]

Communication [64], communities [1], fire [67]

Communication [64], economics [72], modelling [73]

Communication [64], fire [67], volunteering [3]

Communication [64], local knowledge [2], volunteering [3]
Using participatory mapping to increase community engagement in bushfire preparation

Involving communities is a prerequisite to sustainable disaster risk reduction.

Key Topics
- Infrastructure [84], resilience [85]
- Communication [94], local knowledge [2], volunteering [3]

Contributions of digital volunteering to community resilience [87]
30 Jun 2017

Adoption of location-based information sharing technologies and the emergence of digital volunteering has seen changes to community involvement in disaster management. We examine how goosw 2.0 platforms, including crowd mapping and social media, can support elements of resilience building, and how these practices potentially undermine resilience.

Key Topics
- Communication [94], resilience [85], volunteering [3]

Out of uniform: building community resilience through non-traditional emergency volunteering

SUSTAINABLE VOLUNTEERING [59]

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