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INTERNATIONAL COALITION FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT



Asia-Pacific Centre for the  
Responsibility to Protect



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

# Early Warning for Protection

Technologies and Practice for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes



# Traditional Early Warning Mechanisms

Panel Discussion

**Early Warning for Protection**

Technologies and Practices for the Prevention of Mass Atrocity Crimes



# Dr. Stephanie Elies

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Regional Cooperation in Asia

# Ms Ratna Mathai-Luke

Project Officer, Asia-Europe Foundation

**Early Warning for Protection**

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# Early Warning Framework for Minority Conflicts



## Panel 1.2

### ‘Traditional Early Warning Mechanisms’

Presented by Dr. Stefanie Elies, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung  
and Ratna Mathai Luke, Asia-Europe Foundation



## Background:

The Asia Europe Roundtable since 2000, has been one of the key existent forums for Asia-Europe dialogue on conflict management.

The roundtable series was launched by the:

- Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
- The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia (FES)
- Singapore Institute for International Affairs (SIIA)



## Background:

Since 2003, the Asia Europe Roundtable has focused on the theme of peace and security in Asia and Europe.

Since minority issues remain at the heart of most intra-state conflicts, the 6<sup>th</sup> Asia Europe Roundtable which met in 2009, focused on minority conflicts.



*‘Members in the ASEM\* framework should set up a track II forum to detect early warning signals and monitor conflict areas’*

- Key Recommendation, 6<sup>th</sup> Asia Europe Roundtable

\***ASEM** (the Asia-Europe Meeting) is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation. It brings together Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, The Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam, the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Commission. <http://www.aseminfoboard.org>

## Questions Considered:

- Do different Early Warning Systems do things differently?
- What is the possibility of greater coordination between governments and civil society organisations?
- What role do regional institutions play in ensuring that the warning signals are heeded?



Two main themes :

*I. The gap in the cycle of*

- Knowledge and early warning
- Early warning and early response

*II. The role and importance of regional frameworks*

## The Gap between Knowledge and Early Warning:

- Different thresholds of recognition
- Complexity of indicators
- Who speaks on behalf of whom?
- Lack of a systematic approach

## The Gap between Early Warning and Quick Response:

- Reluctance to discuss intrastate conflict
- The issue of neutrality
- Who is warning to whom?

## Bridging the Gap:

- Creating trust and cooperation
- Multi-level approach
- Capacity building of actors
- A 'comparative advantage assessment'

# The Role and Importance of Regional Frameworks – Motivation

- Assumption: Neighbouring countries prosper if they are friendly and not fractious
- Changing nature of security threats requires cooperative solutions
- Regional frameworks may create an atmosphere of cooperation and enable cross-border governance and peaceful dispute settlement
- Increase the pool of most suited and best placed actors

# The Role and Importance of Regional Frameworks

- Universal, international frameworks have had limited success
- Minority conflicts are located at *local level*, but impact is also felt at *regional level*
- States share economic and security concerns on regional level  
→ Regional Framework may aid local implementation of Early Warning Systems into political and social structure
- Example: ASEAN Declaration on Trafficking in Persons → adopted by member states in their own efforts to fight human trafficking

# Framework Alternatives

- Formalized regional frameworks are not the only solution to implement Early Warning Systems
- Alternative possibilities include:
  - Ad-hoc creations
  - Existing bodies and mechanisms
- Power of mechanisms depend on the cooperation & dialogue between civil society and official bodies

## Example: Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)

- Implementation one month after ceasefire in 2005, successfully ended on 15 December 2006
- Inter-regional: Mission led by a partnership between EU and 5 ASEAN countries
- Presence was based on an invitation by the government and full support of the Free Aceh Movement
- Key to success: Partners fully respected the territorial integrity of Indonesia and the civilian and impartial nature of the mission



## Example: Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)

### AMM objectives:

- Assist in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement
- Establish and maintain liaison with the parties
- Decommissioning of surrendered arms
- Monitoring the re-location and withdrawal of “non-organic” military and police forces
- Observation of Human Rights
- Monitoring the decommissioning, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) of former insurgents

## Features of an EWF - The Titian Perdamaian Framework example

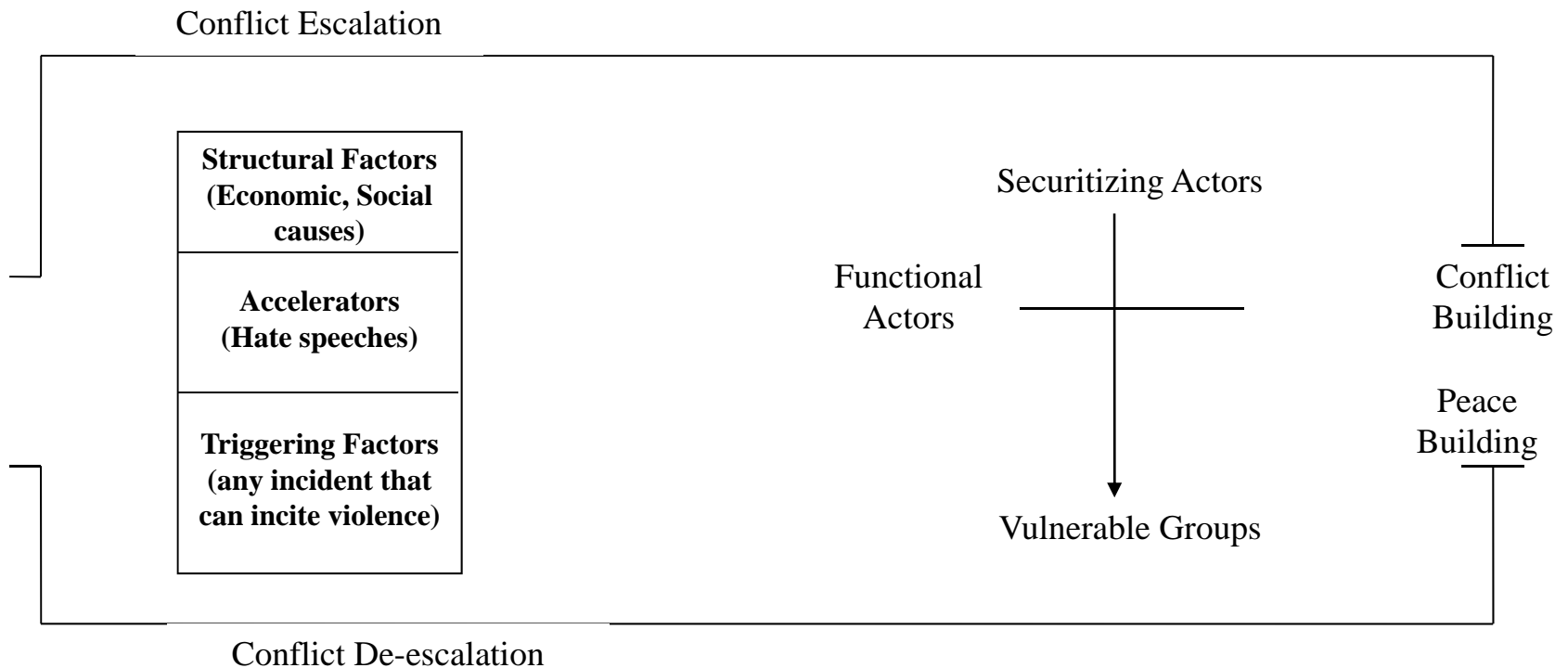
- Framework premise: all actors involved in conflict escalation can be equally involved in its de-escalation
- Objective: conversion of conflict agitators to peace-builders
- Mapping of conflict factors at all levels (structure, accelerators and triggers) to explain the logic of threat
- Elements of peace-building efforts: dialogue and education

# Features of an EWF - The Titian Perdamaian Framework example

## Example:

- Identification of economic discrimination as the root cause of conflict
- Offer: Creation of credit and trade unions for vulnerable groups → sustainable means for raising funds
- Involvement of multiple stake holders is insured by a forum set up at the beginning of the process
- Allocation of tasks and responsibilities during all stages of the process in the forum

# Features of an EWF - The Titian Perdamaian Framework example



# Early Warning Mechanisms

- Power of mechanisms depend on the cooperation & dialogue between civil society and official bodies
  - > on domestic level
  - > on the regional level

# Early Warning and Regional Cooperation



Source:  
A. Schnabel, DCAF

# An Early Warning Framework in Asia?

It is the ASEAN member countries' objective to:

“Promote greater transparency and understanding of defence policies and security perceptions”

by

“Develop[ing] an ASEAN early warning system based on existing mechanisms to prevent occurrence/escalation of conflicts”

(The ASEAN Political Security Roadmap, B.1.2.)

# Existing Bodies and Mechanisms in SEA

- ASEAN Regional Forum
- ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights
- ASEAN Defense Minister's Meeting (+8)
- National Bodies
- Special Envoys
- International Civil Society Groups & Networks
- Regional & National Civil Society Groups
- Regional Groups on Responsibility to Protect
- Regional Peace-building Missions
- UN Regional Offices
- SAARC Database on Monitoring Violence
- International Centre for Ethnic Studies
- Peace Research Institute Oslo



# Applying EWF

Two key concerns emerge:

- Involvement of Relevant Stakeholders
- Identifying Relevant Entry Points
  - Domestic level
    - Capacity building for Civil Society Organisations, developing and ensuring access to information material
  - Regional level
    - Forming a knowledge community including decision makers, and eminent persons, think tanks, academic and journalists' networks
    - Linking Warning Systems to Human Rights/Human Security Frameworks (AICHR)
  - United Nations Universal Periodic Review (Review of human rights records of all UN member states every four years)

## Establishment

- Make use of pre-existing Forums and Networks
- Explore “open-door” possibilities for implementation of the framework (e.g. Aceh Peace Process)
- Advocate the structural network through a media programme
- Establish region-to-region dialogue



## Next Steps

- Encourage direct meetings on early warning component in Asia and Europe
- Promote framework to ARF Eminent Expert Persons Group and 2011 ASEAN Chairmanship
- Promote exchanges between High Commissioner on National Minorities of OSCE and ARF Eminent Expert Persons Group as well as relevant bodies of ASEAN
- Explore a Track II approach, allowing government officials to participate and discuss sensitive issues



# Ms Malinda Braland

Geospatial Information Specialist,  
Pacific Disaster Centre

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» Wildfire

» Hurricane

» Tropical Cyclone

» Tsunami

» Flooding

» Earthquake

» Pandemic Influenza

Fostering Disaster - Resilient Communities



# PDC's Role in Early Warning for Protection

November 3, 2010



# Pacific Disaster Center (PDC)

## Fostering Disaster-Resilient Communities

Providing Applied Information Research and Analysis Support for the Development of More Effective Policies, Institutions, Programs and Resources Assisting the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Management Communities – Regionally and World Wide

**WWW.PDC.ORG**

Program Established By Congress To Provide **Access To New And More Effective Information Resources And Networks** Supporting All Levels Of Crises Management.

Provides Information Products And Technology Applications (All-hazard Early Warning And Risk Assessment) To The **Emergency Management** And **Humanitarian Assistance** Decision Makers In The Asia Pacific Region And Beyond



# Comprehensive Disaster Management

## Geospatial Information Contributions

- Bridge Gaps Between Science & Decision
  - Increased **WARNING** Time
  - Common Operating Picture
  - Situational Awareness
  - Coping Capacities
  - Better Understanding of Disasters ...
  - Saving Lives & Reducing Impacts
- Decision Support
- Risk & Vulnerability

Prevention

Preparation

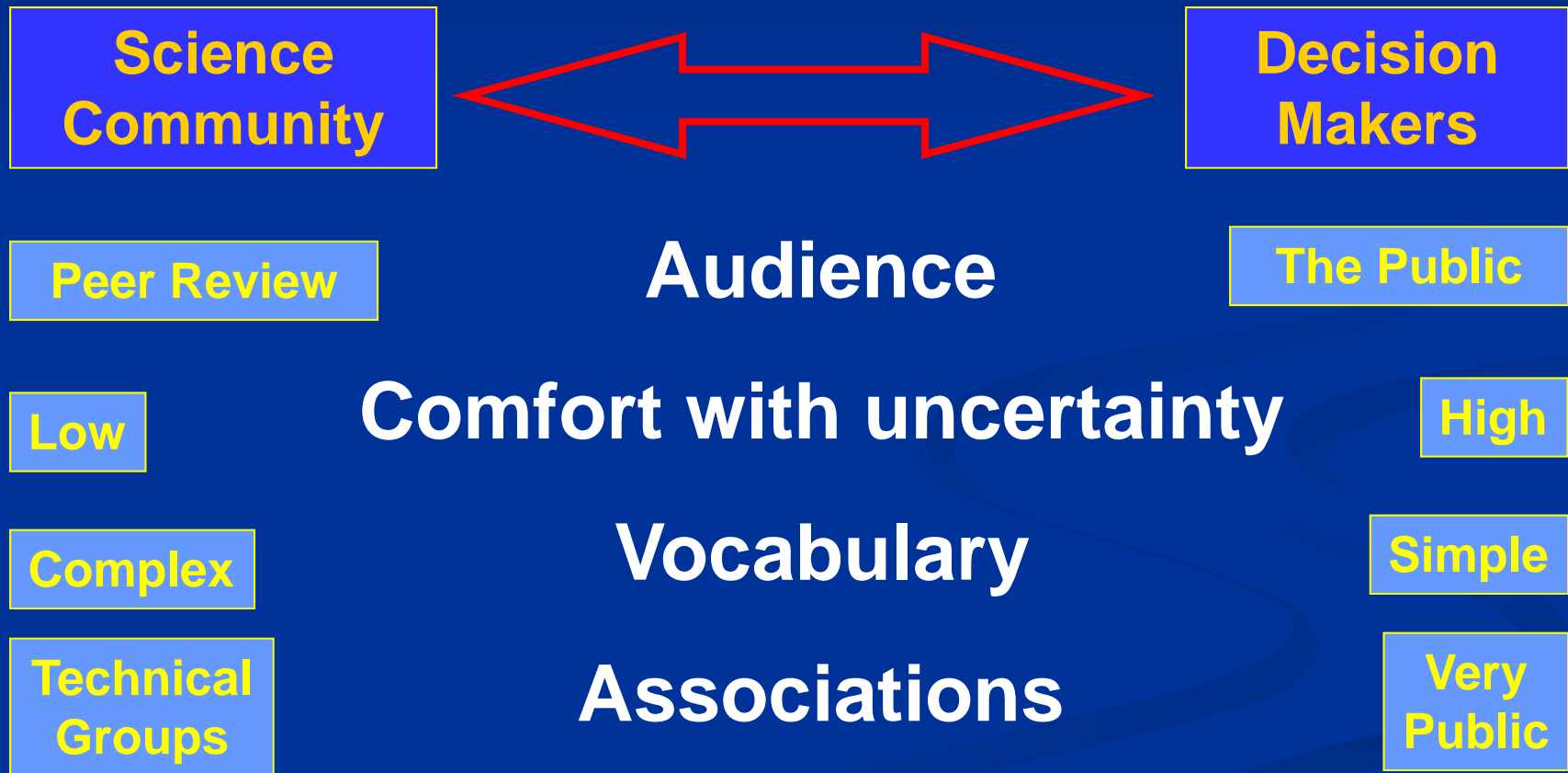
Mitigation

Response

Recovery

**End-to-end Disaster Management**

# Building a Communication Bridge





# Data! Data! Data!

- Information can be scattered and overwhelming
- Difficult to Understand
- Lack Situational Awareness
- Risks are not Understood
- Dissemination is Limited
- This makes Inadequate Tools for Decision Makers

## Sample Advisories

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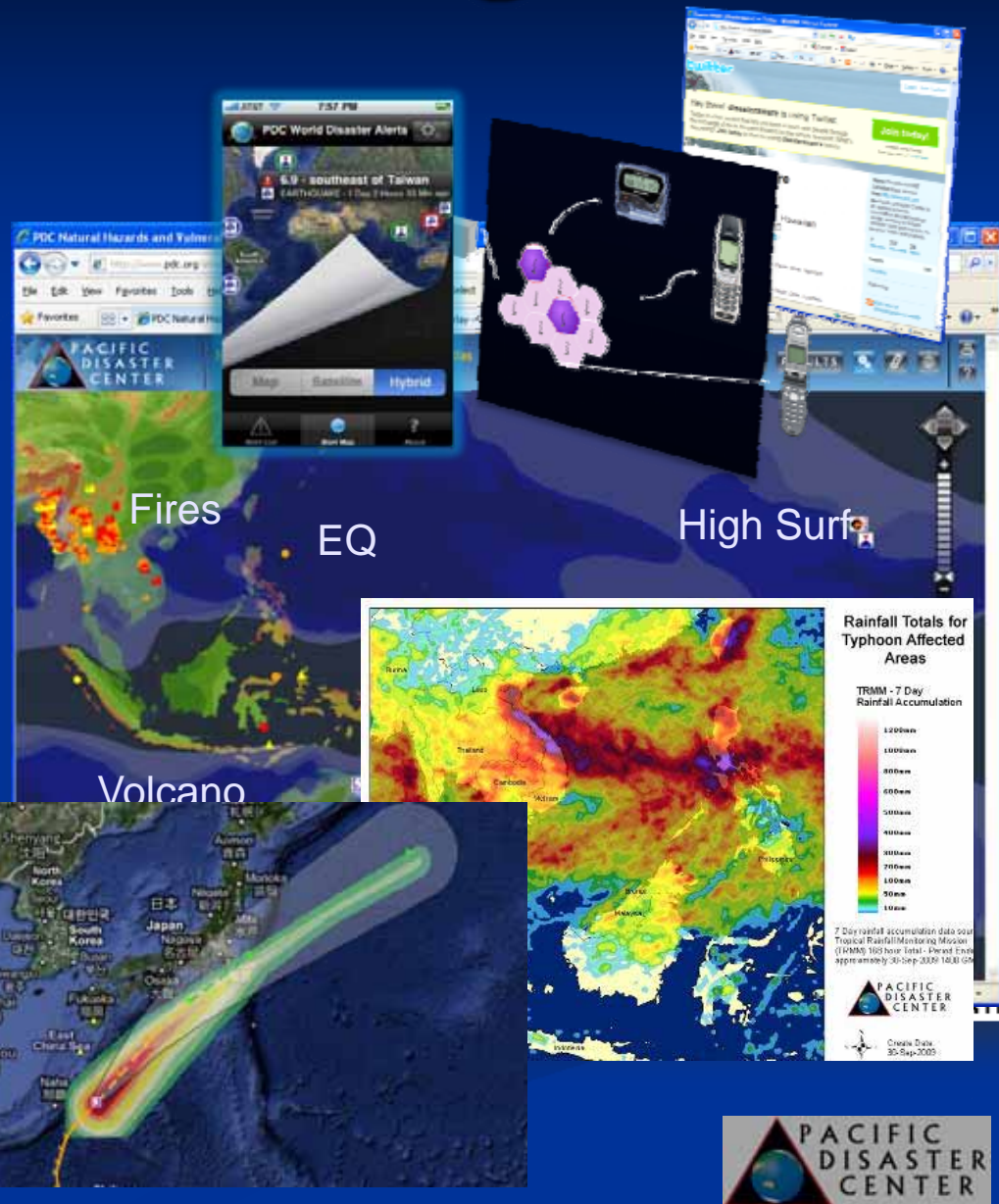
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5.2	2006/0
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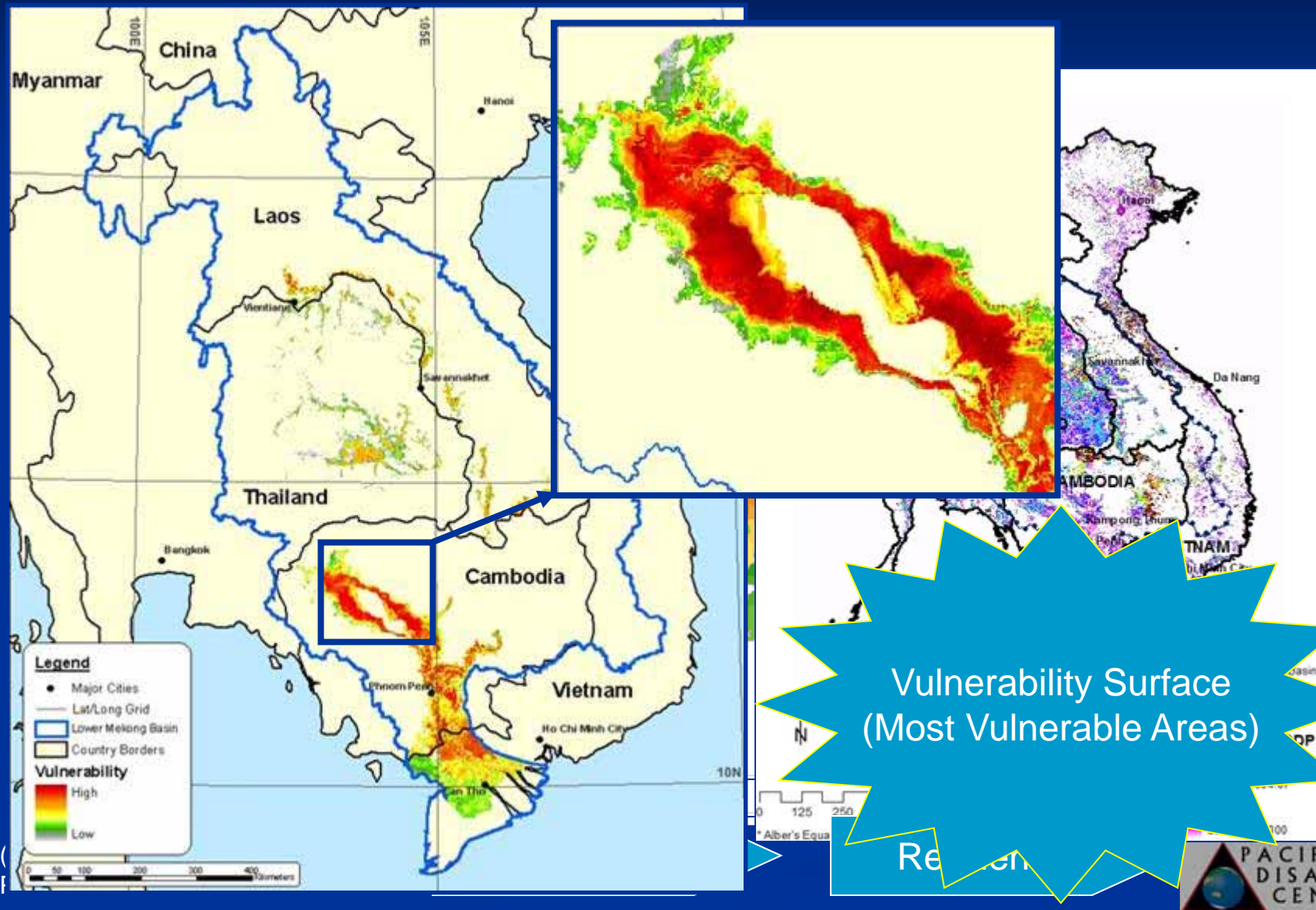
# Technology Dev & Integration

- Simplify, Integrate & Automate Data
- Early Warning
- Situational Awareness
- Understand Exposure & Risk
- Disseminate Data and Warnings
- Support Decisions Based on Latest Assessments





# Risk & Vulnerability



# Information Analysis and Data Sharing

- Data Collection
- Analysis & Modeling
- Information Products
- Facilitate Communications
  - Civilian-military
  - Org-Org
- Information/Data Sharing

October 2010 Eruption

Hazards & Product List Search Add Hazard Edit Hazard

Active 04:44

#	Severity	Hazard Name	Category	#Prods	HST	Update	Elapsed Time	Status
1	🔴	<a href="#">6.5 - southern Sumatra, Indonesia</a>	EVENT	5	2010-05-05 11:34	2010-05-05 11:34	02 Hrs 17 Min	Active
2	🟢	<a href="#">5.3 - west of Macquarie Island</a>	EVENT	3	2010-05-05 09:34	2010-05-05 09:34	04 Hrs 17 Min	Active
3	🟡	<a href="#">5.6 - Bougainville region, Papua New G...</a>	EVENT	3	2010-05-05 07:54	2010-05-05 07:54	05 Hrs 57 Min	Active
4	🟡	<a href="#">5.6 - Bougainville region, Papua New G...</a>	EVENT	3	2010-05-05 07:34	2010-05-05 07:34	06 Hrs 17 Min	Active
5	🔵	<a href="#">Tsunami Information (Indian Ocean) - S...</a>	EVENT	4	2010-05-05 07:11	2010-05-05 07:11	06 Hrs 40 Min	Active
6	🟢	<a href="#">5.0 - offshore Maule, Chile</a>	EVENT	3	2010-05-05 06:04	2010-05-05 06:04	07 Hrs 47 Min	Active
7	🟢	<a href="#">5.3 - southeast of Easter Island</a>	EVENT	3	2010-05-05 00:24	2010-05-05 00:24	13 Hrs 27 Min	Active
8	🟡	<a href="#">GOMEX Oil Spill</a>	EVENT	7	2010-05-04 14:02	2010-05-04 14:02	23 Hrs 49 Min	Active
9	🟢	<a href="#">5.4 - Antofagasta, Chile</a>	EVENT	4				Active
10	🔵	<a href="#">Pagan</a>	EVENT	1				Active

Displaying 1 - 10 hazards out of 17 results

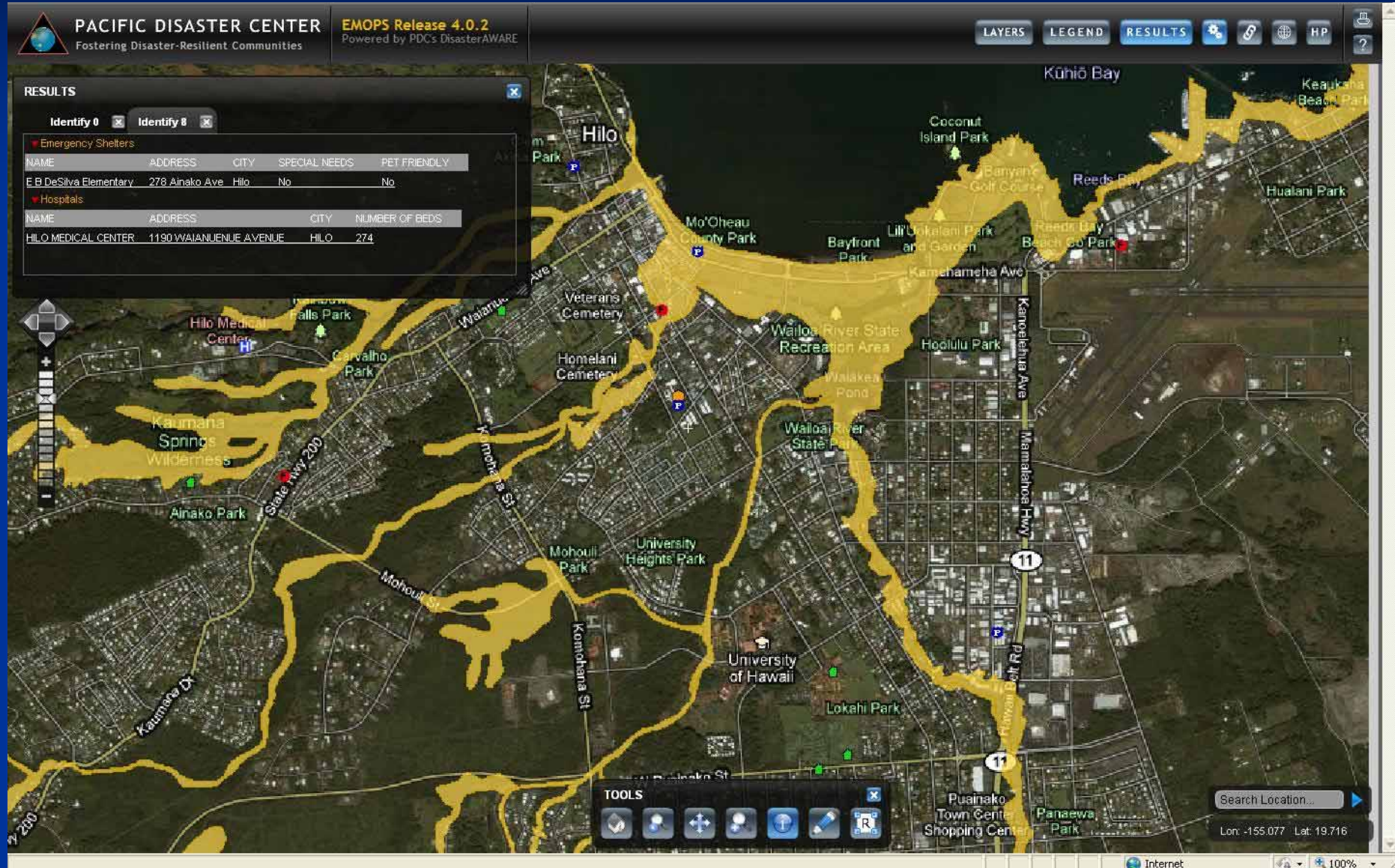
« First « Previous 1 | 2 Next »





# DisasterAWARE

All-Hazard Early Warning GIS Analytical Tool for HA/DR & Disaster Management



# Networks of Formal and Informal Partners

- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
- United Nations – OCHA, OFDA, SPIDER
- USAID
- Vietnam
- Thailand
- Philippines
- Taiwan
- Oceana
- Indonesia
- Bangladesh
- Malaysia





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