

Data Science for Information Society

The Benefits from Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

Throughout the whole disaster management cycle there is still a challenge to support **information and communication needs** of all groups, decision makers and actors of information society.

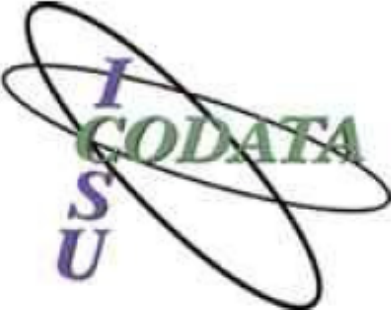
This demand ranges from first aid and rapid response to the support of substantially improved preparedness in all aspects.

A CODATA Working Group offers the appropriate Discussion Platform.

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

CODATA, The Committee on Data for Science and Technology


<http://www.codata.org/taskgroups/WGdisaster/index.html>



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C O D A T A

Working Group on Documentation, Archiving and Open Access to Disaster Information

As approved by the CODATA 26th General Assembly, Kyiv 2008

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

The mission of CODATA is to strengthen international science for the benefit of society by promoting improved scientific and technical data management and use.

The Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA) was set up by the 11th General Assembly held in Bombay, January 1966. The Committee held its first meeting in Paris in June 1966.

CODATA is concerned with all types of quantitative data resulting from experimental measurements or observations in the physical, biological, geological and astronomical sciences. Particular emphasis is given to **data management problems common to different scientific disciplines** and to data used outside the field in which they were generated.

The general objectives are the improvement of the quality and accessibility of data, as well as the methods by which data are acquired, managed, and analysed; the facilitation of international cooperation among those collecting, organizing, and using data; and the promotion of an increased awareness in the scientific and technical community of the importance of these activities.



Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

The CODATA WG will address

- Demand
- Current state of the art
- Deficits
- Benefits
- Action plan / recommendations
- Identify initiatives

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

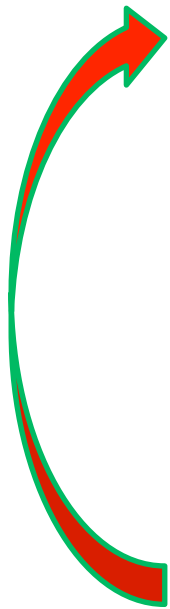
Disaster preparedness is seen from the information structure and management viewpoint and comprises the anticipated need of information in disaster management and post-disaster analysis.

Quality of information is treated in terms of

- timeliness of availability
- completeness
- adequateness

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

Risk



Model

Observe

Measure

Barometer

Thresholds

Communicate

Analyze decisions and actions

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

resulting data are most often very much dispersed and kept by many different organizations; sometimes, they're even classified, if not falsified for propaganda reasons when disclosed to public. Data sets are very much partial because collectors are interested in specific domains only; they're very seldom assembled in a "complete" data collection related to one individual disaster. When accessible by investigators not directly involved in their collection, precise data sources and documented collecting methodologies are rarely accessible, if preserved at all.

Without full documentation Archiving and Open Access to Disaster Information, it is impossible to analyze the appropriateness of decisions made and the efficiency of actions taken from those decisions.

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

Benefits

- Open and permanent access to disaster information
- Allows objective/trustworthy information to all actors (especially: Media)
- Influences the reduction of losses substantially
- Enables knowledge mining
- Reduces misunderstanding
- Prevents misevaluation or bad estimation of decision consequences
- Is relevant to the complete management process (describe, analyze, compare, decide, act)
- Is basic/essential in consequences to all resources involved (humanitarian, social, organizational, financial etc.)

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- The complexity of the tasks indicated shows that even the data and information science principles of Disaster Information are not understood in a way that could be named „optimal“.
- We are even lacking the science/education curricula

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

- Information Society at large is interested in being prepared to disaster risk at a level adequate to the technologies and methods available
- Data Science fulfills its role towards Information Society in pointing out at the major obstacles to learn and advise for future best preparedness
- With respect to Information Society, trustworthy information sources are required in all disaster phases.
- There is consequence to the ethical domain in various aspects (from information in the media to the critical aftermaths)

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

The CODATA WG steering committee:

- **Horst Kremers, Germany**
- **Jean Bonnin, France**
- **Liu Chuang, China**
- **Bob Chen, U.S.A.**
- **Shuichi Iwata, Japan**

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

You are invited to join our activities for further

**Information
Communication
Cooperation**

<http://www.codata.org>

<http://www.codata.org/taskgroups/WGdisaster/>

Documentation, Archiving and Open Access of Disaster Information

Chairman, German Committee for CODATA



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