

DEAL SHARE LIVE: Partnering for innovation in disaster technology

About the Session

The session on the afternoon of the 26th of June was a culmination of the [Disaster Tech Innovation Programme](#) that was developed in collaboration with Prudence Foundation. The competition spanned over a few months and was centred around crowd-sourcing innovative ideas that could address the challenges of natural disasters in the region. The Deal Share Live session provided a platform for the 4 finalists to present their innovation to a room of industry experts and resource providers. The innovations that were showcased range of technologies such as platforms, maps, sensors and drones. These 4 presenters took to the World Café format to share their work with the delegates in the room. This format brought the SPOs and conference delegates together in an intimate setting to facilitate knowledge sharing and explore funding and collaboration opportunities in this area.

The session was designed to facilitate an environment where the 4 finalists were given an equal opportunity to pitch to the delegates in the room while also answering some key questions around their work. The session incorporated three rounds of pitching and Q&A that allowed for the delegates to engage with at least three of the presenting organisations. At the end of each round, we encouraged the delegate to add any resources, advice, potential connections that they had for the particular SPO to help scale their work. The purpose of this was to present the SPOs with some tangible and concrete takeaways from the session.

Before the rounds began, Don Kanak, Chairman, Prudence Foundation welcomed everyone and spoke of the collaborative efforts of the various partners involved in the delivery of the programme that brought all the finalists to the Deal Share Session. This was followed by an Introductory video of all the SPOs to give the delegates more information about the presenting SPOs and therefore enable them to make an informed decision as to which pitch they would like to sit in on.



After the three rounds, the 4 finalists were invited to share some of key insights and takeaways from the discussions at the session and the overall experience of being part of the Disaster Tech Innovation Programme. Some of the general feedback was the positive experience of having gone through the Disaster Tech Innovation Competition and how the Deal Share session was instrumental in helping the presenters interact with the delegates in the room ranging from grant makers, impact investors, intermediaries and a handful of social purpose organisations.

Key Takeaways:

There was a general awareness around the importance of moving the discussion towards disaster preparedness and leveraging on technology to mitigate the risks that accompanies a natural disaster. The presenting social purpose organisations felt that the Deal Share Live session was a good platform for them to showcase their work and demonstrate the impact that their innovation could bring to addressing these challenges. There was an agreement that the session was a great place for personal development and organisation outreach through the potential collaborations that could be drawn from the connections made at the session.



The attendees were relevant and working in the field of disaster management and were asking the right questions that prompted the presenters to think about ways to improve and better their work. Some felt that there was a potential opportunity in future collaboration that they made at the conference during the Deal Share Live session.

Along with the other breakout session on [Moving Capital Towards Proactive Disaster Solutions](#) the conversations definitely presented a nod in the right direction towards building the pipeline of organisations working in this field and also opening and identifying opportunities for resource providers to collaborate and co-invest towards SDG 11 and SDG 13

We invite members who are interested in finding out more about Deal Share or the Social Purpose Organisations that pitched in this session to visit <https://avpn.asia/dealshare/> or to click on the title of the enterprise listed below. We are continuing to build a community of collaborators and resource providers around disaster preparedness and invite members who are interested to reach out to us at dealshare@avpn.asia

Summaries of Discussions:

FieldSight

Presenter: Justin Henceroth

Project outline: FieldSight is the first mobile platform for monitoring, supervision, and quality assurance of infrastructure, humanitarian, and public sector projects that is currently being used in 14 countries to support more than 70,000 project sites.



Examples of questions asked:

Q: How do you get users to believe in your standards?

A: The standards are not developed by FieldSight and the platform is used to enforce the standards of the area/region – and translated into digital form. Standards are usually also specific to a project and therefore are just a platform. Especially as the plan to move out of

disaster reconstruction into invest investment buildings, investors want a building that meets standards so the platform will be effective.

Q: How much does the data have to be customised to each individual market?

A: Every individual market is unique, so the system is structured to allow for a lot of customisation. Tried to develop standardised templates but they were of no use. Work with countries to develop templates for their project, these templates will then be available publicly for other users who may be working on something similar. It is also unique across different projects too (even within countries).

Q: What is the top challenge?

A: Usability, customers are organisations but the data user is the construction workers in the field so it has to be usable by these end-users → heavy emphasis on User Interface

Yayasan Peta Bencana

Presenter: Adhitya Yusuf

Project outline: Peta Bencana is a non-profit organization using open source software to produce megacity-scale visualisations of disasters using both crowd-sourced reporting and government agency validations in real time.



Examples of questions asked:

Q: Does the user need to register in advance for the service, especially with Telegram? Where is it encrypted?

A: Everyone who tweets a certain word will receive a link. But for FB Messenger and Telegram, the user must like their page first before the link is sent out. Data is all encrypted so that information is private.

Q: Is it still available in rural areas where telecommunications may not be as efficient?

A: For Indonesia, internet coverage is widespread enough. Working towards collecting data via SMS as well.

Q: In times of emergency, it is likely that online traffic will be very high, how do you mitigate this?

A: They run on the amazon server which is more reliable than the government one.

SeismicAI

Presenter: Amir Dinur

Project outline: SeismicAI developed a commercial-grade Earthquake Early Warning System enabling users to detect any seismic activity in less than 2 seconds. Combining seismological knowledge with artificial intelligence, the company offers the most robust, reliable and cost effective solution in the market.



Examples of questions asked:

Q: How is this used to prepare communities?

A: The heat map is provided to the community and is informed in advance what they think is going to happen in the city. Need to find a solution that pre-empt the situation for preparedness.

Q: How would you know what would happen to a building since they may vary with quality?

A: There should be an understanding of the ground acceleration under the building, then the data of the building (e.g. age, floors, number of people inside), this can be done using real data.

Q: Do you train the first responders too?

A: Yes



Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT)

Presenter: Nate Smith

Project outline: Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT) is an NGO and global volunteer community that creates maps to address the world's toughest challenges. In times of crisis and natural disaster, HOT rallies a network of volunteers worldwide to rapidly produce maps relied upon by humanitarian relief organizations to reach those in need.

Examples of questions asked:

Q: How much of Asia have you covered?

A: Many of the times the imagery is quite small in terms of coverage - despite these huge blocks, we cover about at least 20 countries in Asia. It is an open source catalogue of imagery which can be used for disaster management

Q: How do you ensure that people are using the service properly - legally, and how are you going to deal with the demand - like if imaging was needed after a disaster

A: On the regulation side of things, it is a challenge - we have been talking about how to provide the right regulation in a certain area, working with the civil defence and other services. We have not been doing so much of the coordination side of things but more so a platform for people to upload imagery when they have it, not so much coordinating.

Q: How do you ensure the accuracy of the imagery uploaded?

A: Training and equipping people to accurately image the places, also do some behind-the-scene review of the images uploaded