INDONESIA SCENARIO ASSESSMENT FOR EMERGENCIES (INASAFE)

Is free software that produces realistic natural hazard impact scenarios for better planning, preparedness and response activities.

Concept
To effectively prepare for future floods, earthquakes or tsunami you must first understand the likely impacts that need to be managed. For example, to prepare contingency plans for a severe flood in Jakarta, emergency managers need to answer questions like:

- what are the areas likely to be affected;
- how many people will need to be evacuated and sheltered;
- which schools will be closed;
- which hospitals can still take patients; and
- what roads will be closed?
Where does the data come from?
Effectively preparing for a disaster requires people from a wide range of sectors and backgrounds to work together and share their experience, expertise, and resources. Using InaSAFE to develop a scenario requires the same spirit of cooperation and sharing of expertise and data.

InaSAFE is designed to use and combine existing data from science agencies, local governments, and communities. Normally, information on the location of people and important assets are provided by local communities and government departments responsible for each sector, often through a facilitated part of a disaster preparedness and planning exercise.

Where spatial data doesn't exist, external tools such as OpenStreetMap (www.LearnOSM.org) can allow governments and communities to quickly and easily map assets that are important to them.

It is important to note that InaSAFE is not a hazard modelling tool. Information on hazards needs to be provided either by technical experts, often from Government agencies, universities or technical consultants, or from communities themselves based on their previous experiences.

The more communities, scientists and governments share data and knowledge, the more realistic and useful the InaSAFE scenario will be.

Where do I get more information?
The InaSAFE website (www.inasafe.org) has more information and instructions for installing InaSAFE.

InaSAFE was conceived and initially developed by the Indonesia's National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) and the Australian Agency for International Development, through the Australia-Indonesia Facility for Disaster Reduction, the World Bank - Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).
Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono praised InaSAFE as being "very beneficial for us all".

InaSAFE, free software that produces realistic natural hazard impact scenarios for better planning, preparedness and response activities, was launched at the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction in Yogyakarta in October 2012.

Since then the InaSAFE team has been working to make the software even more effective. Version 1.2 will be released in June 2013 with new features that will allow users to directly download OpenStreetMap buildings directly into Quantum GIS (Open Source GIS software, and the platform for InaSAFE). It will also allow potential disaster impacts to be broken down into small areas (by administration boundaries), so that disaster managers can understand the impacts in their jurisdictions. The new version will also have updated manuals, training materials and website (www.inasafe.org).

InaSAFE has been recognised by Black Duck as one of the top Open Source programs to begin in 2012. It was selected for this prestigious award from amongst 1,000's of new open source software projects.
InaSAFE is a tool that integrates scientific and local knowledge about hazard with detailed spatial information on important infrastructure such as schools and hospitals to understand impacts. Indonesia’s National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) and the Australian funded Australia-Indonesia Facility for Disaster Reduction (AIFDR) have been working together to build the capacity of Indonesia’s science agencies to develop fundamental scientific information about the threats Indonesia faces from hazards such as earthquakes, tsunami and volcanos.

At the same time, BNPB and AIFDR are working with the Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team and communities to map the location of buildings, from residential homes to schools and hospitals. This program has seen over 600 people trained in OpenStreetMap with nearly one million buildings mapped in OpenStreetMap across Indonesia since 2011.

InaSAFE and emergencies

InaSAFE is a practical tool that can be used during disaster events. For example, it has been designed to automatically get the latest earthquake information from Indonesia’s Agency for Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics (BMKG) and combine this with population density to estimate the number of people impacted by an earthquake immediately after the event. The continuing development of the software will allow policy makers and disaster managers to understand, in real time, the scale of the disaster, allowing them to prioritise distribution of resources to the areas most affected and determine the number of relief items needed.

Building an InaSAFE Community

Indonesia

The key to open source software is the community that supports the project. What is unique about InaSAFE is that it pulls together scientists and communities to help support policy makers and disaster managers. BNPB and AIFDR have been working towards building this community through presentations, workshops and trainings. To date over 150 Indonesian disaster managers across six provinces have been trained in InaSAFE, as well as data collection through OpenStreetMap, and basic GIS through Quantum GIS.

The training culminated in 25 people across the six provinces (from government, NGOs, CSOs and universities), successfully trained to become InaSAFE trainers for their region. Additional training programs will be undertaken in Indonesia. The InaSAFE team is also initiating training to the open source developer community in Indonesia by targeting specific software scripting communities as well as the Indonesian Agency for Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT).

World

Indonesia, Australia and the World Bank - Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) are also taking the training to the region and beyond. In March 2013, BNPB and AIFDR staff conducted InaSAFE training for disaster managers and government scientists at the ASEAN Risk Assessment Forum, held in Bangkok. 90% of trainees said that they would like to use InaSAFE in their day-to-day work.

The World Bank-GFDRR has also started to socialise the concept of InaSAFE across the world, with many countries keen to receive support in implementing the software. In May 2013, the World Bank-GFDRR kicked off a new collaborative initiative with the Philippines Government, that included integration of InaSAFE into its existing disaster preparedness system.

“InaSAFE is a useful tool in preparing for disaster response. What is good about it is that it can be adapted and enhanced by individual countries to suit their risks.”

Supported by:
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New Release
This release represents a major step forward in the InaSAFE project with the addition of key new features to support aggregation and post processing for demographic analysis. InaSAFE has also received an interface and error messaging makeover and new tools for scenario assessment. There are also many changes you can’t see easily - including a major revision of source code to improve consistency and organisation.

We’ve been hard at work to support multiple languages in every part of the project including our website, the application user interface help documentation and more. If you have any questions or want to contribute to the project contact us at our new email address: info@inasafe.org

- The InaSAFE team
KEY NEW FEATURES

User Interface
We have updated the branding of InaSAFE to reflect InaSAFE’s new logo, the ‘gununganwayang’, bringing together of 2 halves. Additionally, we have overhauled the InaSAFE panel in QGIS. The question area now hides itself based on the context of what you are doing so that you have more space to view your report. The report area has also been revamped with clearer layout and the inclusion of InaSAFE branding.

Impact Functions
Aggregation and postprocessing
InaSAFE prides itself on simplicity, but with each question answered a new one arises. “In the event of <hazard> how many <exposure> will be affected?”, is the core question that is answered by InaSAFE, but v1.2.0 adds to this by providing options to divide your results by area such as province boundaries. v1.2.0 also allows users to input statistics about their population, such as percentage elderly, adult and infants as well as gender. This will allow the users to understand who may be most affected by a disaster.

Minimum needs
All impact functions which use population for exposure will now compute minimum needs based on BNPB’s standard ‘Perka 7’ guideline. In addition, this guideline for total weekly relief items per person can be overridden in the new impact function configuration options dialog.

Tools
OpenStreetMap Building Downloader
InaSAFE impact functions support the use of various building datasets, in particular, building footprints sourced from the OpenStreetMap project (OSM). InaSAFE v1.2.0 now provides a simple tool for importing building data directly from OSM without having to go through a 3rd party source.

Batch Runner and Save Scenario
Ever wanted to re-run InaSAFE for multiple scenarios with a study area you have saved in the past? The new batch runner and save scenario tools allow the user to setup numerous scenarios and run them in one go! Using this approach you can quickly produce regional contingency plans as new scientific hazard models or community understanding develops. When you run the batch of scenarios, pdf reports are generated automatically and placed into a common directory making it easy for you to browse and disseminate your reports.

Shakemap importer
When InaSAFE calculates the impact of an earthquake it generally uses a ‘Shakemap’ to define the intensity of ground motion. Normally, Shakemap’s are distributed as grid.xml files which are not usable in InaSAFE or QGIS. The Shakemap importer converts the file and creates a keyword file so that it can be used immediately for analysis in InaSAFE. This is the first of many converter tools!

Minimum needs tool
During a disaster you don’t need a scenario to tell you how many people need evacuating, as you receive these numbers from the field. However InaSAFE can provide a quick way of calculating the minimum needs that must be distributed to each refugee camp. InaSAFE is starting to develop tools for post disaster analysis, this minimum needs tool is just the beginning!

Website
We are pleased to announce our new website at www.inasafe.org. The new site sports our new branding, is fully translatable, includes a ‘what’s new’ section and comprehensive documentation (developer, user and training).