Program 8

“DRH: A Tool for Disaster Education”

Proposer: Philip NGUYEN

- **Objectives: Improve the framework of the DRH system for educational use**
- **Target: DRH Staff, researchers, citizens, practitioners,**
- **Type: N/A**

Our Goal and the Current Model

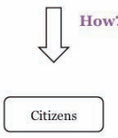
How can we get the citizens to use the database?

Why would citizens want to use DRH?

(Citizens are everyone including future practitioners and future researchers.)

- We must first answer this question, then continue from there

How?



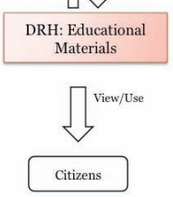
Establishing DRH as a learning tool.

- Information should be readily available and easily accessible to everyone and anyone

Proposed Model

Would citizens be interested in disaster risk reduction technology? It's safer to say that they would first be interested in learning about the disaster.

Establish a component of DRH focusing specifically on "Educational Materials." This will be the primary view and reason citizens may want to use DRH. The technologies can be linked through the educational materials.



Design

Simple is best.

- The best way to get information across is to give it in the simplest way possible.
- Get rid of redundant and irrelevant information
- Should consider making information collapsible and expandable, to avoid providing too much information

One mode.

- One mode of is best for all audiences (researchers, practitioners, and citizens) since one group may overlap with another
- Easily promotes the **circulation of information** across groups

How do we know what to include and what to exclude?

- Examine our goals and what we want to achieve. Is the information relevant to that goal? Our goal may be related to the user goal of why he or she wants to use the database.

"Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler." -Albert Einstein
"Entities should not be multiplied unnecessarily." - Occam's Razor

Why would a researcher, practitioner, or citizen want to use the database?

The Researcher.

- Submission of technologies AND educational materials (lecture notes, presentations, etc.)
- Learn about other technologies and use/ improve on other educational materials
- Discussions and links to other groups or institutions to improve current research or initiate new research

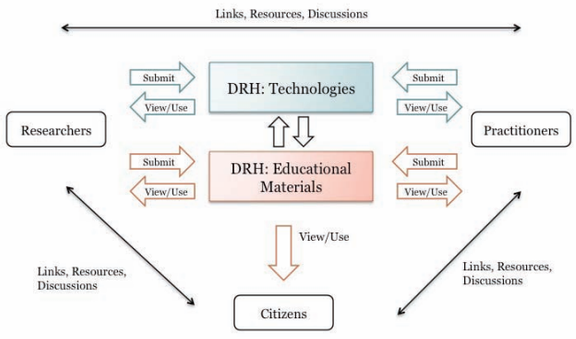
The Practitioner.

- Submission of technologies AND educational materials (pamphlets, flyers, lectures, etc.)
- Learn about other technologies and use/ improve on other educational materials
- Discussions and links to other groups, current research, universities, etc. See problems addressed by citizens

The Citizen.

- Educational Use – Understanding disasters by educational materials which may lead to learning about current technologies
- Discussions and links to current research, local institutions, governments, etc.

Proposed Model



Circulation of Information

Efficient use of information.

- Everyone is working on educational material so why not share, reuse, and improve.

For example, one community can use earthquake preparedness pamphlets from another community to be translated and directed towards specific communities.

Connection across information and groups.

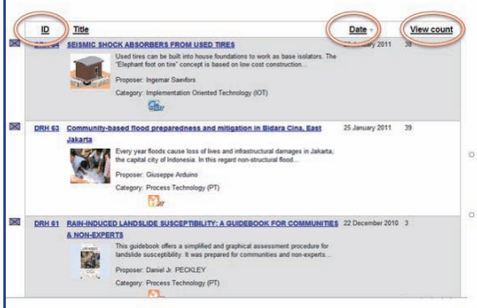
- Discussions, links, etc. across groups are essential for the growth of DRH
- Each data or material should be linked to related information and/or groups

The primary view and primary reason for citizens to use DRH is for educational materials. For the website to survive, it must be simple and practical. All three groups should be able to use it seamlessly for whatever purposes. Once more and more people start using the database, it's importance will grow as a strong tool for disaster reduction.

Current Webpage

For the average user, is this current layout giving too much information. Is everything necessary? Will new users know where to go and what to do? Every irrelevant thing we read wastes our time getting to our goal. The website should be designed to provide the easiest path for the user to obtain the specific information he or she wants.

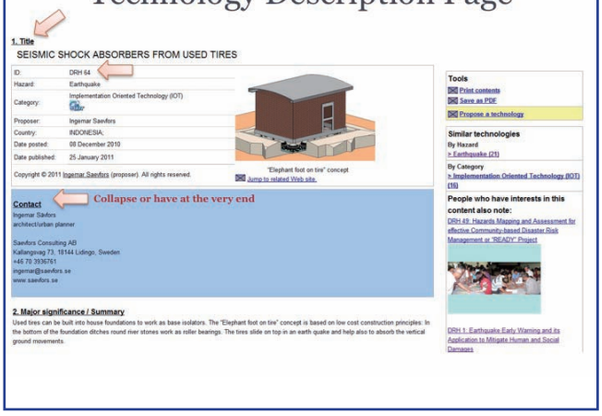
Find Technology Page

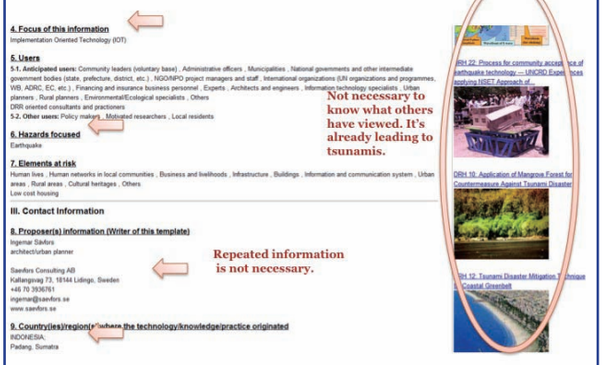


Unnecessary items take time away from the user experience

- Instead of "ID," it can be better replaced with "Hazard Type"
- Instead of "Date" it can be better replaced with "Category"

Technology Description Page

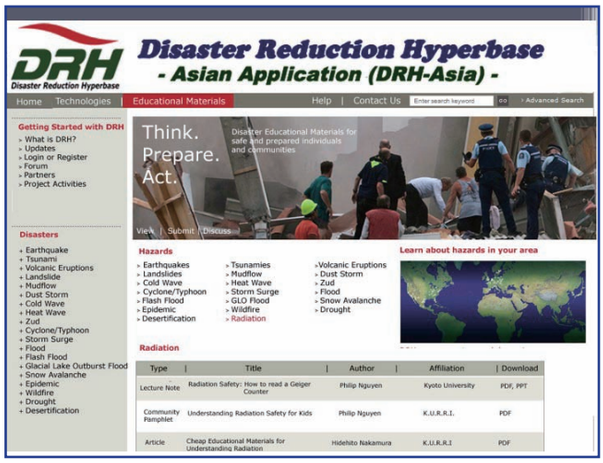




Establishing a Hyperbase of Technology *and* Education

Information produced and presented today may or may not go into practical use in the future. It doesn't have to go to waste though. We need a database of educational materials as well as technology. We can provide a database of information for any ***citizen****, researcher, community leader, or self learner to access, utilize, and build upon.*

If the goal of the hyperbase is for disaster risk reduction, then ***educational material is equally as important if not more important*** *than that of technology available for viewing, because knowing is the first step towards achieving safety.*



Easily Accessible

- We are providing knowledge and empowering individuals and communities so anyone can access the materials
- No registration required
- Only submitting technologies and educational materials require registration
- Files are easily accessible and directly downloadable by search

Discussions/Forum

- No registration required
- With registration, the responses show more credibility, but is not necessary
- Discussions directly linked to specific materials or technologies, notifying the author
- Collaborations between authors are possible

Further Ideas

- Website should be combined with DRH Europe/Africa
- DRH newsletters or specific content updates can be mailed to those who are interested

In the beginning we asked, "*how* can we reach the citizens?"
We need a database of both
Technology *and* Education