**Introduction**

Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HA/DR) operations require **coordination** in order to minimize suffering and maximize the number of saved lives.

Disaster rescue workers commonly experience **time as a critical factor** during their efforts.

An efficient logistics network is thus needed, whereby available **resources** can rapidly be distributed to areas with matching **demands**.

Resource allocation is dependent on **Situational Awareness (SA)**.

To achieve SA, which forms the basis for decisions, a method of managing **disaster field data** is needed.

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**The Field Information Support Tool (FIST)**

- A research project developed at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School
- Based on experiences from reconnaissance missions in Iraq
- Leverages use of commonly available smartphones, cellular and IP-based networks
- App created for the Android OS for collection and distribution of observations
- Makes use of GPS location, date/time, photos, audio, video, drawings and text