# Validation of geo-information products for crisis management

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**Peter Zeil**
Centre for Geoinformatics,
University of Salzburg
Austria

# What is a 'validated' service/product?

**A validated product/service should withstand criticism or objections of the user. Furthermore it should be proven sound, robust and correctly derived. The key questions to be answered in validation can thus be framed as:**

- Are we doing the right thing? I.e. is the product/service **relevant** to the user?

- Are we doing the right thing right? Is our product/service **sound, effective, robust**?
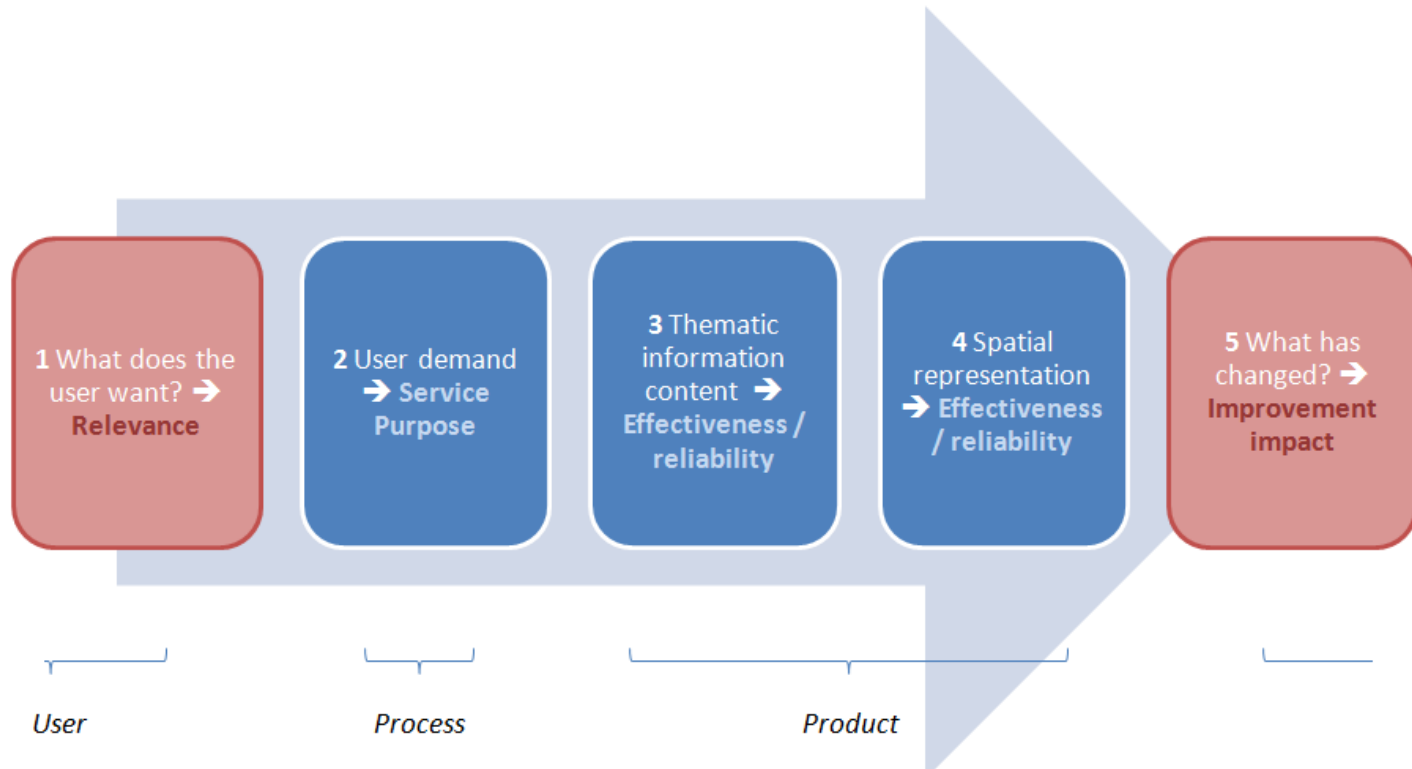
# VALgEO 2010 Sessions

- VALIDATION OF CRISIS GEO-INFORMATION FOLLOWING THE DISASTERS OF 2010

- BEST PRACTICES IN VALIDATION AND QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF RAPID CRISIS GEO-INFORMATION

- VALIDATION AND QUALITY CONTROL OF NEW WEB-BASED SOURCE, SOCIAL NETWORKING AND CROWD- SOURCING TOOLS FOR MAPPING OF CRISIS INFORMATION

- READABILITY OF CRISIS INFORMATION: IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF METHODS OF DYNAMIC CARTOGRAPHIC VISUALIZATION

# Why Validation?

- **Increasing availability of relevant Data Sources, Services and Technologies**

**Yesterday**  **Today**  **Tomorrow**



*Ikonos 1999*

*Quickbird 2002*

*WV1, WV2,*

Optical

SAR

sms

facebook

blog

CRISIS mappers

# Where is the Knowledge we have Lost in Information?

*Sanjana Hattotuwa (2010)*

✓ **Reliability of information content**

✓ **Consistency of information support**

✓ **Usability of the product**

✓ **Efficiency of the service**

✓**Reliability of information content**

✓Consistency of information support

✓Usability of the product

✓Efficiency of the service

Is the information content free of errors, complete, i.e. **close to the "truth"?**

Need of reference data

**Attribute examples**

- Thematic accuracy
- Positional accuracy
- Semantic definition of information content
- Time gap
- Credibility of source/provider
- …

✓Reliability of
information content

✓**Consistency of
information support**

✓Usability of the product

✓Efficiency of the service

## Is the product **(structure) coherent and consistent?**

## No need of reference data

**Attribute examples:**

- Positional consistency across features
- Time gap across features
- Consistency between map and legend symbols
- Topological consistency (datasets)
- Attributes consistency (datasets)
- …

# Usability of the product

✓Reliability of information content

✓Consistency of information support

✓**Usability of the product**

✓Efficiency of the service

Is the product useful and informative, i.e. will the user be able to **get the information contained** in the product?

**Attribute examples:**

- Coverage of the area of interest
- Presence and pertinence of cartographic elements
  - ➤ Overview map, Scale…
- Readability
- Media Used
- Constraints to distribution
- …

✓Reliability of information content

✓Consistency of information support

✓Usability of the product

✓**Efficiency of the service**

Will the service infrastructure be able to **correctly deliver the product**?

- **Attributes**
- Delivery time
- Delivery cost
- Technical support
- Frequency of update
- Integrity

**The crisis map production from the Indonesian Tsunami of December 2004 up to the Haiti earthquake of January 2010 has been considered and classified by year and type of event.**
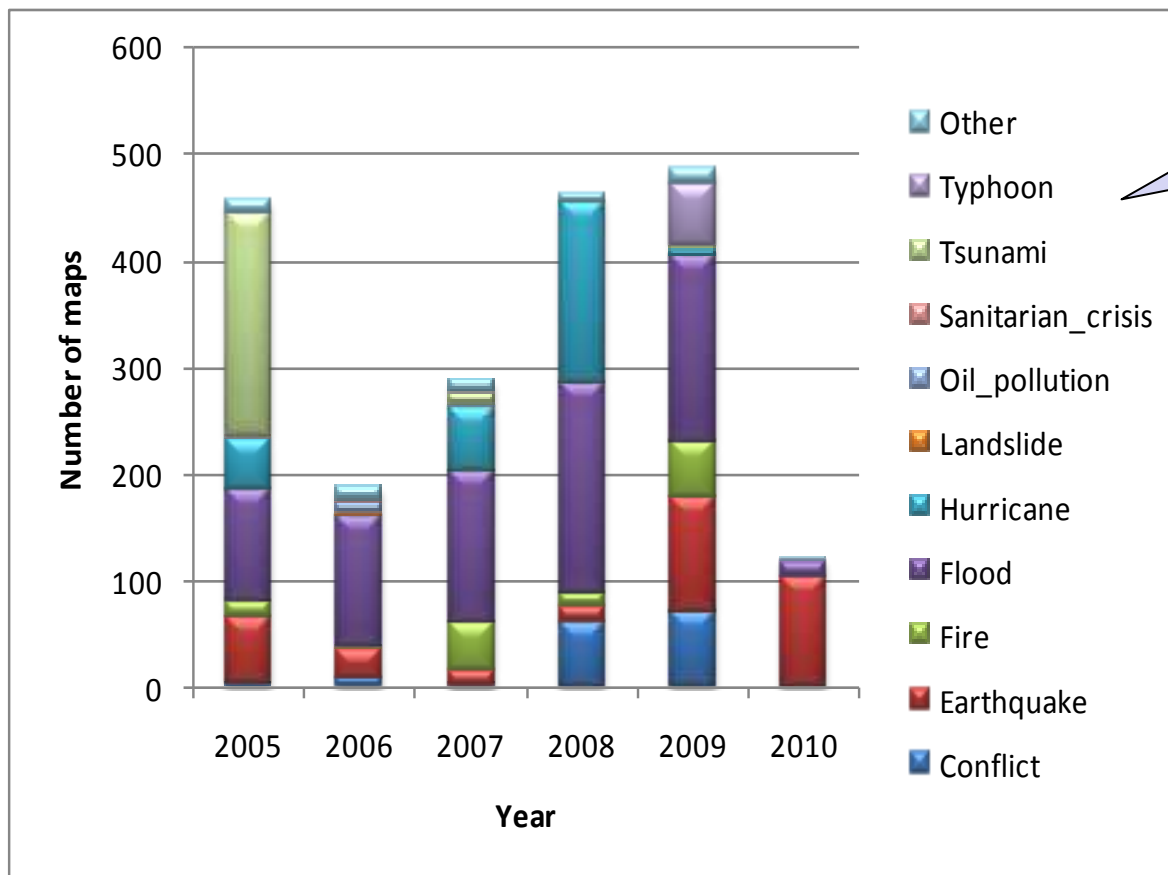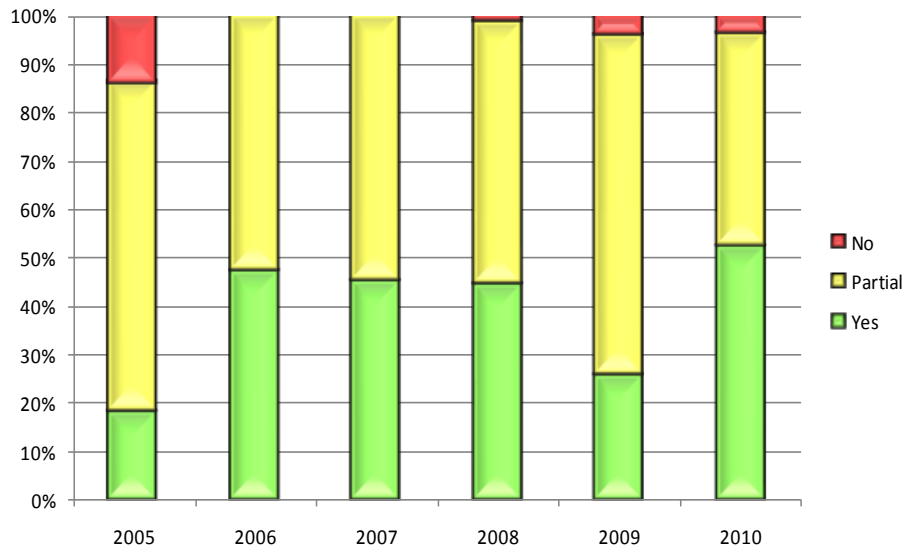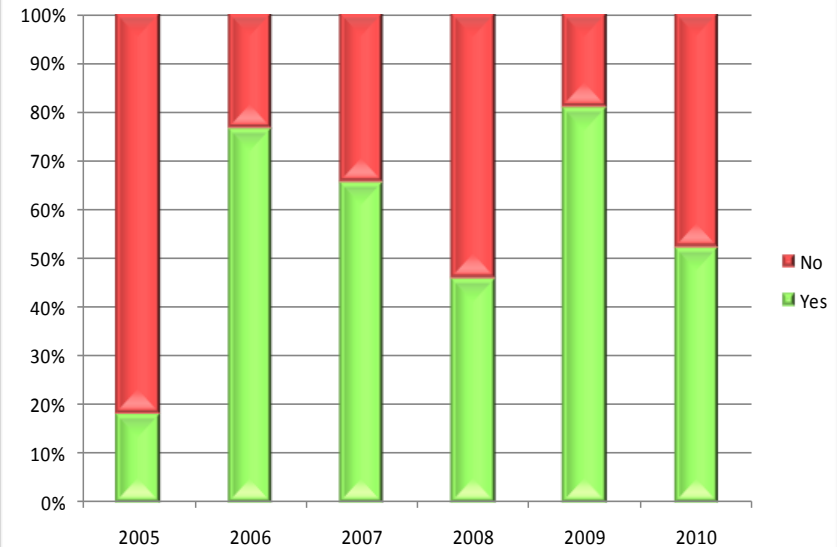


**Total population of 2009 maps**
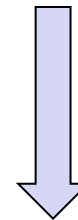
**Sample of 255 maps Randomly extracted**

# Main information regarding the event



Completeness of title



Presence of interpretation text

## Out of the 255 maps sample:

- in 60% of cases the information included in the title is not complete
- in 50% of them the interpretation text is missing

## PICTOMETRY
BASICS OF THE SYSTEM

- 5 digital cameras (1 nadir, 4 oblique)
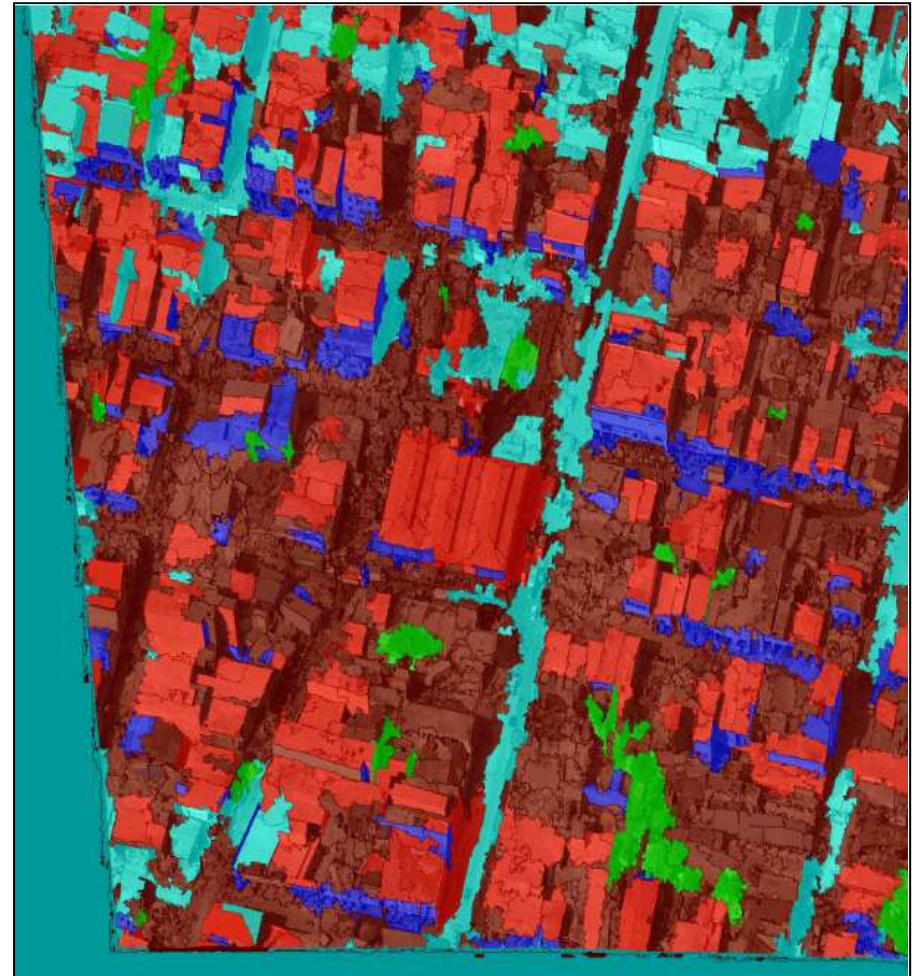
- GSD 15cm (nadir images, flying height ca. 1000m)

- 30% nadir overlap for orthophoto, 60% for stereo

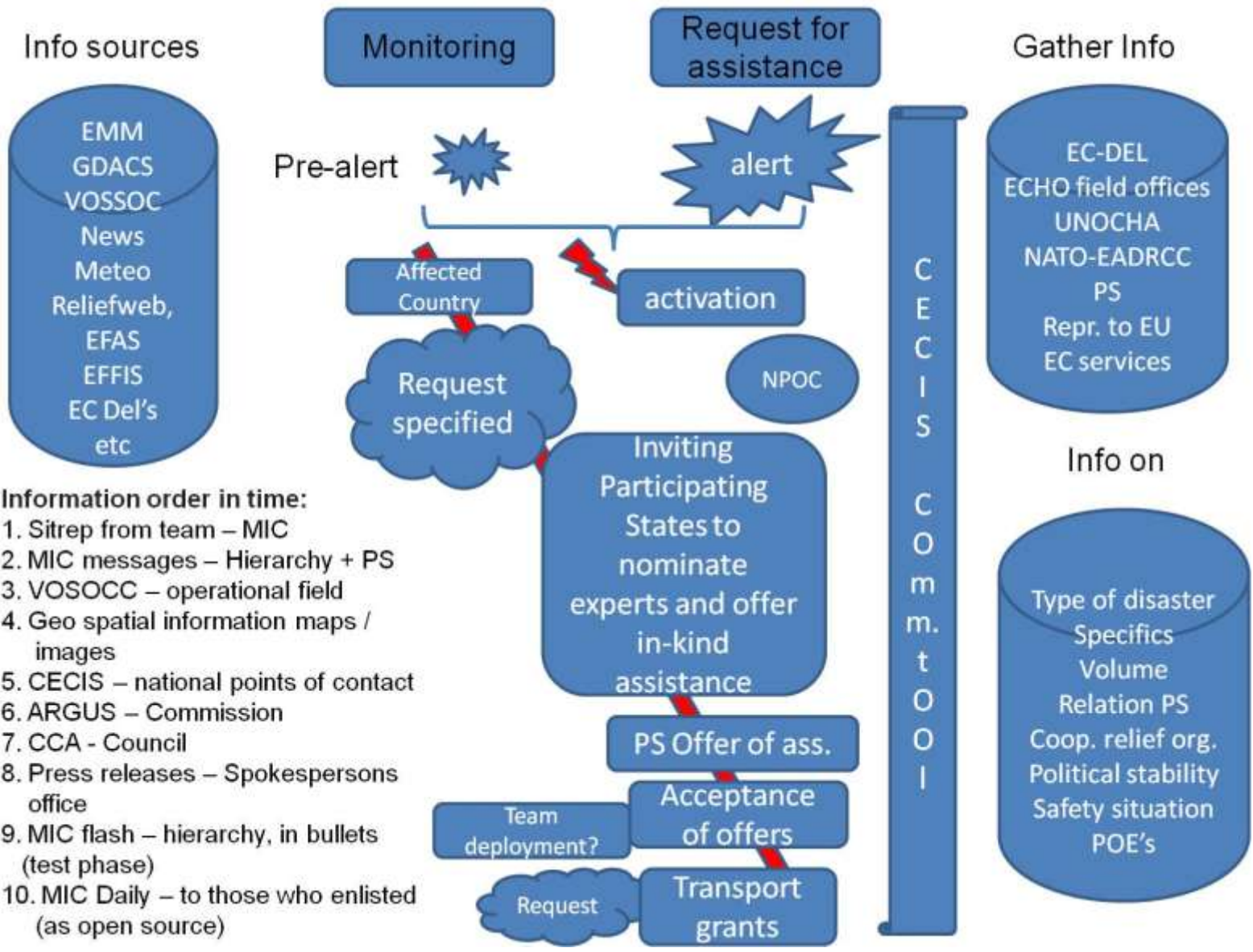- How to extract information? Even visual assessment has limitations.
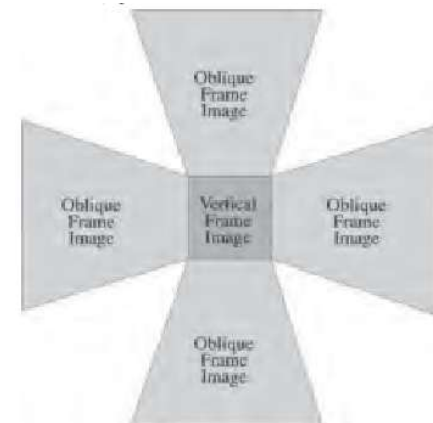
# DAMAGE MAPPING RESULTS: WESTERN VIEW EXAMPLE

- Ortho image

- Detected damage

- Probability map

- Overlaid on image

■ Intact roof

■ Broken roof/ rubble

■ Intact facade

■ Bare ground

■ Vegetation

Joint Research Centre

**Info sources**

EMM
GDACS
VOSSOC
News
Meteo
Reliefweb,
EFAS
EFFIS
EC Del's
etc

**Monitoring**

Pre-alert

Affected Country

Request specified

**Request for assistance**

alert

activation

NPOC

Inviting Participating States to nominate experts and offer in-kind assistance

PS Offer of ass.

Team deployment?

Acceptance of offers

Request

Transport grants

CECIS commtool

**Gather Info**

EC-DEL
ECHO field offices
UNOCHA
NATO-EADRCC
PS
Repr. to EU
EC services

**Info on**

Type of disaster
Specifics
Volume
Relation PS
Coop. relief org.
Political stability
Safety situation
POE's

**Information order in time:**

1. Sitrep from team – MIC
2. MIC messages – Hierarchy + PS
3. VOSOCC – operational field
4. Geo spatial information maps / images
5. CECIS – national points of contact
6. ARGUS – Commission
7. CCA - Council
8. Press releases – Spokespersons office
9. MIC flash – hierarchy, in bullets (test phase)
10. MIC Daily – to those who enlisted (as open source)

# Quality labels for rapid geospatial reporting products

- **Proposed quality levels for automated rapid geospatial information products for quick assessment of usability (volume control type):**

| Level | Symbol | Quality / reliability | Process characteristics |
|-------|--------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ | *Very low* | Only remote sensing data used, no further checks, limited data quality |
| 2 | ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ | *Low* | Known limitations of algorithm |
| 3 | ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ | *Fair* | Basic check for consistency done |
| 4 | ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○ | *Medium* | Data of high quality, well registered |
| 5 | ● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ | *Moderate* | Validated against independent visual inspection or other automated result |
| 6 | ● ● ● ● ● ● ○ | *High* | Proven with field based accuracy measures |
| 7 | ● ● ● ● ● ● ● | *Very high* | Fully validated product (incorporating user feedback) |

**Z** GIS
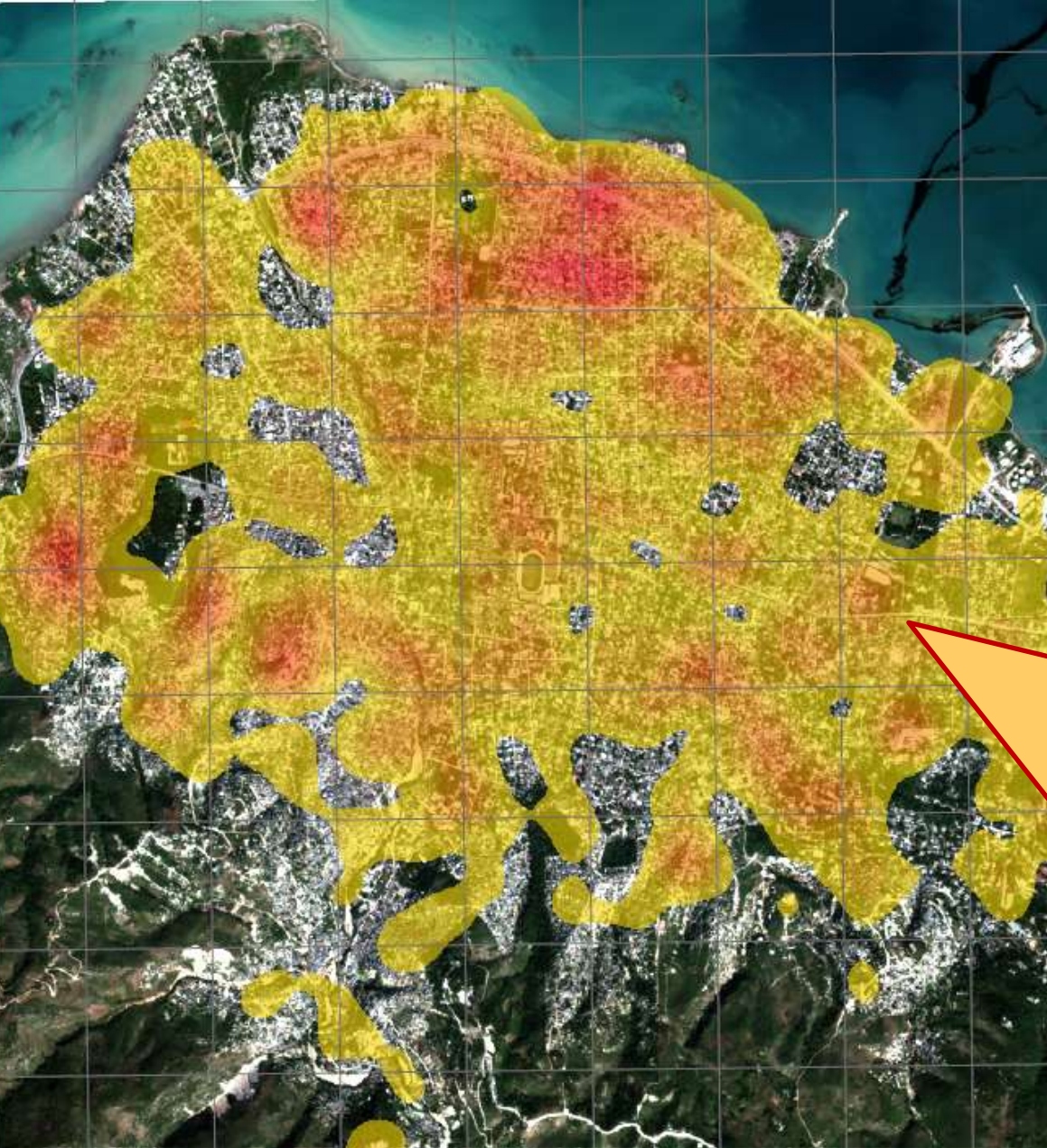
Automated RGR product
**Damage densities in Carrefour, Haiti**

Production time:
• within **12 hrs** after pre-processed data available
• Published **5 days** after earthquake

Purpose:
rapid response and post-disaster assessment

*Spatial accuracy*: **GE+**
*Overall quality level (score 1-7)*: **4**

# Time-Critical Crowdsourcing and Live Crisis Mapping

# How to comply with standards ?


Send reports via:
mobile phone :: email :: web

- Normalize the source ?
  - ➤ Suggesting best practices ?
  - ➤ Integrating capacity building in population preparedness ?

- Filter and aggregate through a back office ?
  - ➤ Unique data center and situation room ?
    - ✓ Governance / Independency
  - ➤ Interconnected SDI ?

- Is the OSM way the good target (well balanced mix) ?

- GMES ERS under constraint
  - ➤ OGC / INSPIRE imposed by the commission rules
  - ➤ MGCP-light data model compliant with HOT ?

- Validation and degree of tolerance all along the crisis lifecycle



Need for information

Expected level of validation

Pre-Disaster Phase | Disaster Response Phase | Post-Disaster Phase

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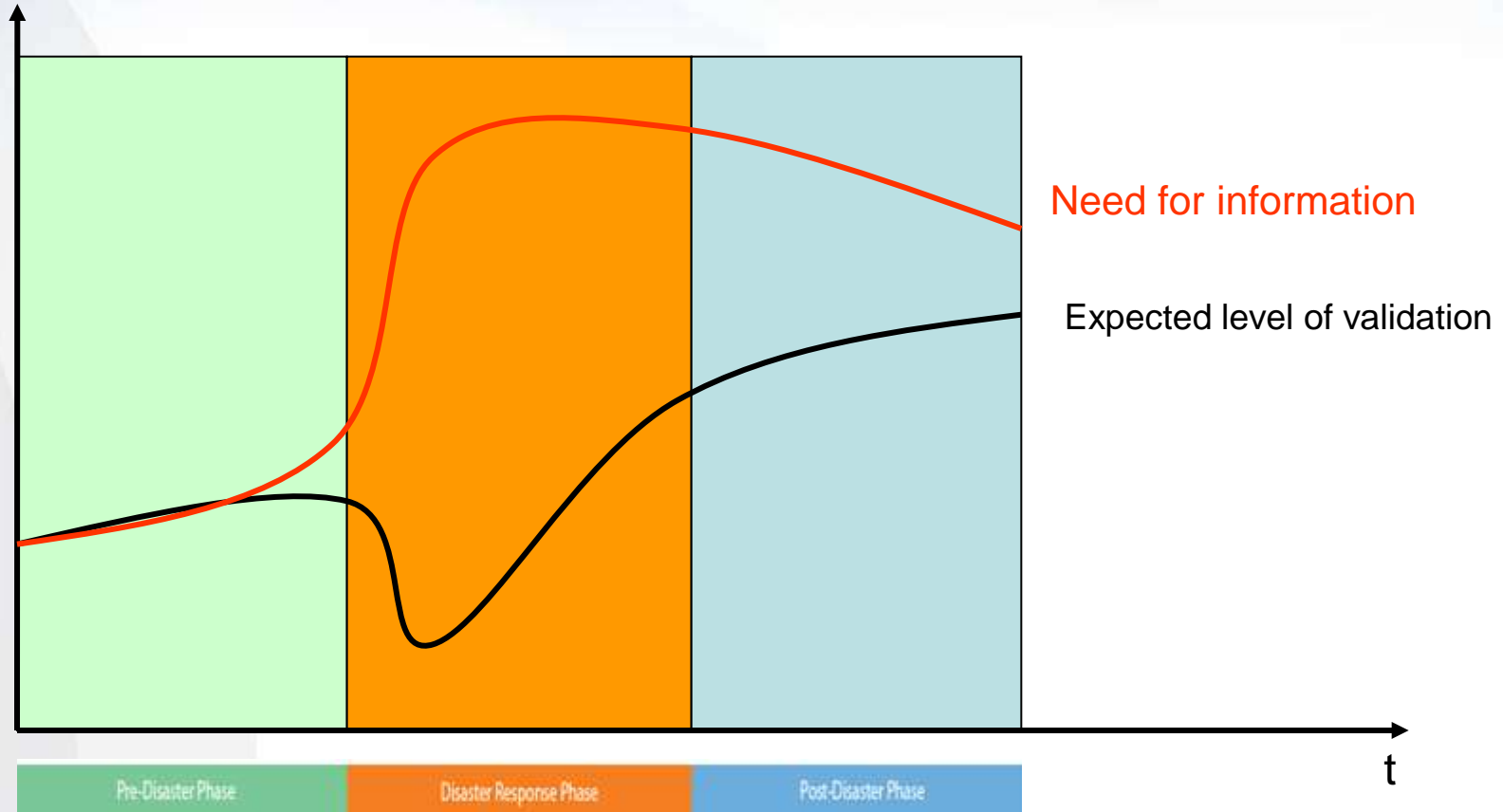
- Crow sourcing mostly pertinent just after the crisis ?

## Tobii T120

- **Sampling frequency 120 Hz**: faster than the slowest (25-60 Hz): good compromise between
  - Accuracy (distance from measured position and true position) and
  - Precision (ability to reliably reproduce measurement)
  - A higher sampling frequency (used for calculation of fast eye mov, saccades and gaze contingent experiments) sometimes comes at the cost of precision
- **Remote = non intrusive** (vs head mounted/chin rest/bite bars, scleral search coils!!), reducing the fatigue effects on task performance - contra: data loss when subject moves..
- **PCCR (Pupil Centre Corneal Reflection)- near IR** is used to create the reflection patterns on the cornea and pupil; two image sensors are used to capture images of the eyes and the reflection patterns.
- Software: **advanced tools for analysis and visualization**, in-depth qualitative and quantitative analysis. Data is easily taken to meaningful comparison, interpretation and presentation.

# Experts can see things that others cannot

(This is why I prefer to talk of *remote perceiving* rather than remote sensing.)

Data-Frame Theory of Sensemaking

25
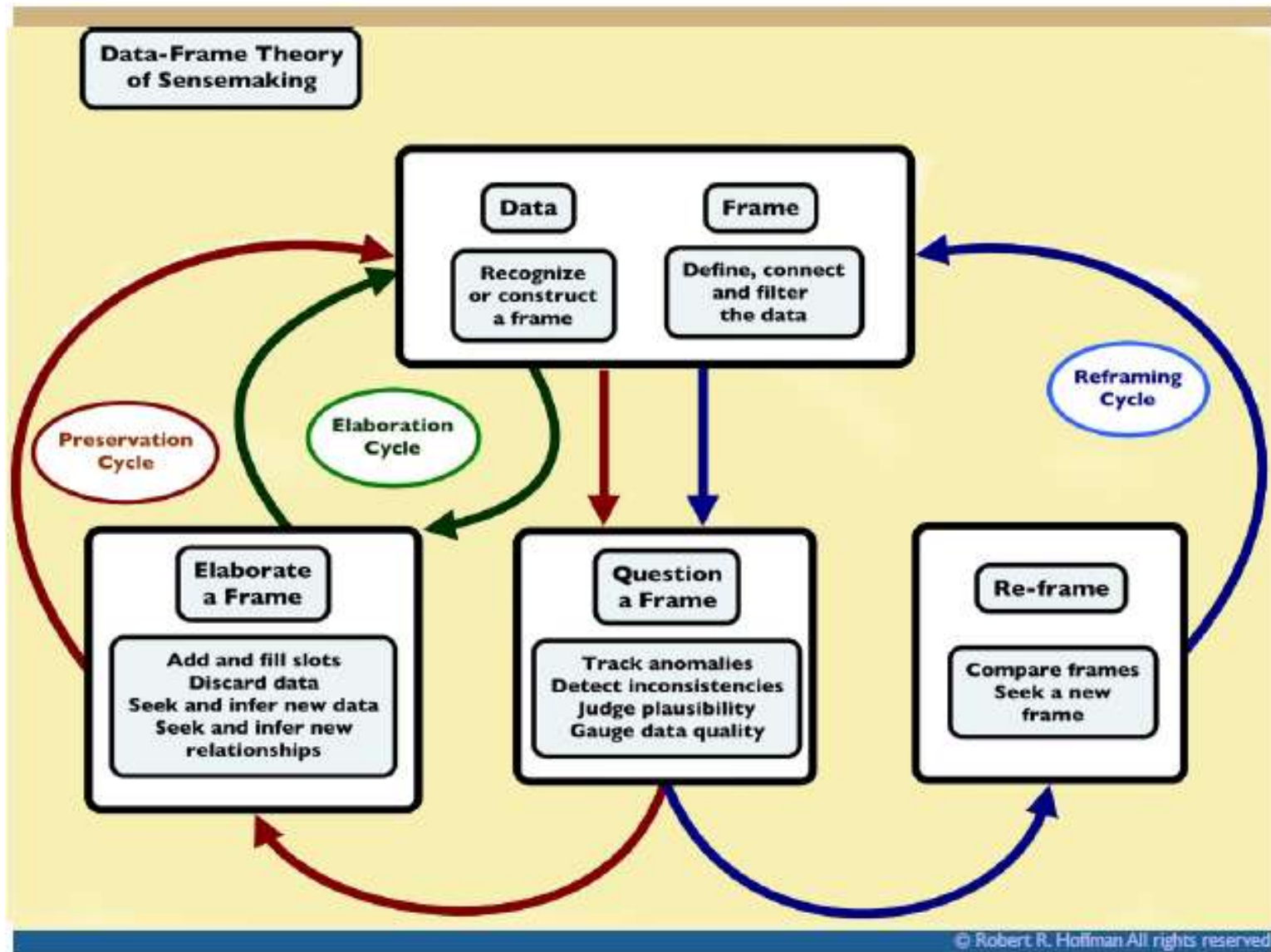
# Implications

- Knowledge capture, preservation and re-use.
- Using technology to escape the "10-year rule."
- Any method for accelerating the achievement of expertise will hinge on the ability to support the processes of *perceptual re-learning of dynamic cue configurations and of dynamic cue configurations that exist across multiple data types.*
- This is a fundamental challenge for the psychology of expertise, the field of remote sensing, and for the design of technology.

# Key issues

**From the keynotes**

- **trusted** analysis

- community crisis management

- share the reliability of information - **feedback**

- JRC Validation Protocol
  - reliability of information content
  - consistency of information support
  - usability of the product
  - efficiency of the service

# Issues raised during the workshop

- sobering results

- validation/calibration not possible without long-term observations (inventories)

- crisis room situation & periodical exercises

- introduce level of quality to rapid mapping products

- volunteer task force for crisis mapping

- processing of crowd-sourced data

- informing the public – who and how?

- extraction of information and effective visualisation

# Questions:

- What is the added value of validation?
- What does/can the end-user expect from validation/validated products and services?

Achievements & challenges

# Achievements / Challenges

- Valid. Is a required process to build trust

- The valgeo community (network) can come out with a signal to be acted upon

- Users still need to get used to this type of information

- The trust of the SP is a priority

- Need for a proto-validation (basic carto. Issues)

- Validation should be separated from the production process

- How do you communicate better validation results ?

# Next steps

- Validation of JRC validation protocol
- use the concept for your own case
- provide **feedback**

practical steps:
- register to the ValgEO website
- post your feedback on the website

recommendation:
- special session at next year's ValgEO
  *from concept to guidelines*

http://isferea.jrc.ec.europa.eu/Workshops/2009-11-VALgEO