COBACORE is a project funded by the EU 7th framework programme
Call identifier: FP7-SEC-2012-1
Grant no.: 313308
Start: 1 April 2013
Duration of project: 36 months
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This project has received funding from the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no [313308].
COBACORE (Community Based Comprehensive Recovery) has been developed in response to increasing pressures on needs assessment and disaster recovery planning in complex post-disaster environments. These pressures include the rising number of disasters due to climate change, economic and societal trends and political shifts, forcing response and recovery processes to become more efficient.

However, multiple challenges face the development of faster and more robust needs assessment and disaster recovery. There is a lack of coordination and collaboration among organisations and ineffective common needs assessments. These lead to sizeable information gaps in assessing the scale and severity of a disaster. Further related to this is a lack of utilisation of and engagement with affected communities, resulting in delayed post-impact information collection along with limited community involvement, situation awareness, needs awareness and management.

For this reason, COBACORE aims to develop an innovative platform for community based comprehensive recovery. This solution is grounded in a holistic, community-based approach to needs assessment and recovery planning. COBACORE will deliver an integrated and interactive workspace platform, a collaborative environment where a complete picture of the post-crisis situation can be generated.

Citizens and relief workers will benefit from facilities to share needs and capabilities, and to build local partnerships; governmental bodies and humanitarian relief organisations will have a community-generated view of the recovery process and means to collaborate strategically; and volunteers and online communities will have channels to contribute in a more coherent and visible manner.

In order to facilitate information exchange COBACORE will feature:
- Needs registration
- Needs overview
- Baseline overview
- Plan/activity/information sharing

To enhance needs and capacity matching COBACORE will feature:
- Capacity registration
- Needs and capacity overview
- Needs and capacity matching

To support collaboration, COBACORE will include the following features:
- Instruction/document sharing
- Capacity/activity/organisation overview
- Activity suggestion feature

Responding Communities will be one of the main beneficiaries from the needs and capacities sharing features of COBACORE. The matching of needs and capacities will ensure that volunteers can respond more quickly, strategically and coherently to the needs of those affected. The collaboration support features, particularly the activity suggestion feature, will allow volunteers to contribute to disaster recovery in a way best suited to their capacities and abilities, thereby maximizing the productivity and visibility of their engagement. Volunteers will also gain from the information exchange feature which will improve overall response coordination to the disaster.