

What is MapGive?

Mapgive is a U.S. Department of State initiative that encourages and increases volunteer participation in the global mapping community to create open data that supports humanitarian and development efforts.

What is open mapping?

Open mapping is when individuals work together to contribute to a free map of the world.

For many places in the world, this data is incomplete, out of date, or simply does not exist. Through mapping, volunteers and professionals can help to fill gaps in the data set to build a more sustainable future.

Updated and freely accessible map data plays a critical role in humanitarian and development missions.

Open mapping in action



Sept. 2017

When thousands of Rohingya refugees flee to Bangladesh, responders request assistance in mapping rapidly growing refugee settlements.

Sept. 2017

The mapping community mobilizes online volunteers in a coordinated effort to quickly crowdsource needed data. Volunteers trace visible features on updated satellite imagery in OpenStreet, instantly creating new map data.

Oct. 2017

Updated maps improve humanitarian coordination and provision of essential services in affected areas. Mappers continuously support updates as needed.

How MapGive connects the U.S. Department of State with the open mapping community

MapGive leverages the U.S. Department of State's unique capabilities to strengthen the open mapping community's efforts.

MapGive's Imagery to the Crowd program shares updated high resolution imagery enabling quicker and better responses to emergencies around the world in over 240 instances so far.

MapGive emphasizes collaborative online mapping as a method to engage with local communities and organizations and build local geospatial capacity. MapGive has helped State Department personnel around the globe mobilize and organize local communities for mapping events, or mapathons.

In 2015, the U.S. Consulate General in Lahore organized an event with local university students to assist Nepal earthquake response efforts. In three hours, students edited more than 4,000 buildings and roads. Pakistani students had the opportunity to interact with open mapping experts in Washington, D.C. and learn about the important relationship between maps and humanitarian aid.

MapGive identifies and creates opportunities where open mapping can support existing State Department programs to better support humanitarian and development needs. MapGive has helped incorporate open mapping into various science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and education related events.

Since 2017, MapGive has helped connect Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) alumni with open mapping to use data to address challenges in public health, community development, and humanitarian response.



Drawing Our Resources Together

mapgive.state.gov

MapGive has helped
volunteers and professionals add
millions of features to
OpenStreetMap.



34,800
unique users



2,813,600
buildings



382,000
roads

How can you #MapGive?

Organize a mapathon

MapGive can provide guidance on organizing mapathons. Mapathons are events that bring people together to map for a specific humanitarian or development cause.

Participants are typically university students, NGO workers, volunteers, and other key actors. No prior experience is necessary.

Mapathons are unique and valuable experiences that immediately provide much needed map data.

Explore opportunities

MapGive provides guidance and expertise to offices within the State Department in ways they can integrate open mapping into their programming.

Mapping can be used for a wide variety of applications particularly in the humanitarian and development fields, but also in the areas of education, urban resilience, and others.

MapGive helps the State Department to connect with a vibrant global network of open mapping communities.

Amplify the message

Spread the word on social media! Follow [@MapGive](#), get the social media guide on mapgive.state.gov, or contact us at mapgive@state.gov.



Digital humanitarians can [#mapgive](#): learn how to create much needed data connecting communities with life-saving services at mapgive.state.gov [#datamatters](#)



The world isn't mapped like many believe. Learn to map the world with [#OpenStreetMap](#) and [@MapGive](#) [#mappingfordiplomacy](#)