

Trusted Developers



Farid Boushra Attaalla (Egypt): Farid is a web developer with over seven years of professional experience in the development. As the the owner of [New Generation Development Center](#), a civil society organization promoting human development company, he specializes in creating custom web sites for NGO's and Elections monitoring, focusing primarily on [custom Ushahidi](#), WordPress design and development. He also blogs on topics relating to web design, small business, Egypt politics and work-life balance.

[Rob Baker](#) (USA): The first recipient of our "Trusted Developer" Badge is no stranger in the Ushahidi community. He has been engaged in the community for almost as long as the Ushahidi platform has been around. He first deployed the Ushahidi platform for the 2009 Afghan election cycle and has helped launch, manage, and customize dozens of instances since around the world. In 2010, he spearheaded the Universities for Ushahidi (U4U) initiative with USIP and worked with our team to set up the foundations of [our community site](#). He has continuously been a team player and has always sported a smile even during the most challenging projects. He is obviously an excellent software developer as well. Our first "Trusted Developer" Badge thus goes to our good friend and colleague, [Rob Baker](#)! (Update: Rob Baker is now an Ushahidi team member.)

Chris Blow (USA): Chris is an interaction designer and web developer with a background in usability testing. He is responsible for design strategy at [Meedan](#), an international nonprofit working on cross-cultural communication. Chris has been involved with Ushahidi since its early stages in 2008 when he first met Erik at a coffee shop in San Francisco. Over the years he's worked on design, theme development, system administration, public speaking and data visualization. He collaborated on early stages of "Multiple Hosted Instances" (now Crowdmap), helped design the first Ushahidi iPhone application and has contributed to the Swift River strategy.

Kuo-Yu Slayer Chuang (Taiwan): Slayer started his research and industrial-related service projects in Industrial Technology Research Institute, Taiwan from 1999. His current research topics are humanitarian supports, Internet of Things, CPU design, Location-based services (LBS) with [Open GeoSMS](#), and fair/charity trading for Taiwan local agriculture. Kuo-Yu joined MIT CSAIL as an visiting scientist for the multi-tile debugger research of RAW (Reconfigurable Architecture Workstation) project from Oct. 2001 to the end of 2002. Then started a few research projects from 2003 such as ITRI CX32 CPU design, natural hazard monitoring with WSN, micro controller toolchain design, LBS on mobile devices, and later participated OGC open standards technical meetings for joining SWE standardworking group. From 2008 until now, Kuo-Yu and his team are developing a tiny handy Short Message Service (SMS) based standard for exchanging coordinates on mobile devices called Open GeoSMS and is one of the OGC standards. This open standard is under discussion of ITU-T and has already adopted by several telecommunications operators, map/navigation service providers, device makers, and even for some open source disaster management project such as Ushahidi and Sahana. Now a social enterprise, [GeoThings](#), is going to be launched for providing integrated disaster management solution and fair/charity agriculture trading platform.

[Francesco Ciriaci](#) (Italy, USA): A humanitarian geek, Francesco spent 10 years in social entrepreneurship as project and program manager, working at the intersection of technology, humanitarian relief and international development. Francesco co-founded [Reflab](#) and currently lives in D.C. working at the World Bank to leverage mobile tech for transparency and accountability of development projects ([#WBFinances](#)). Francesco has led the [Offline to Online App](#) for the past year.

A committed Ushahidi fan, he believes citizen engagement and crowdsourcing are the key to build a better world.

Pablo (USA, the world): Pablo Destéfanis is an ICT expert with 15 years of experience in the private and public sectors. He is based in Washington, DC, and has extensive experience in infrastructure, security, and enterprise IT, which he scales and applies to projects in Human Development, focusing on open source and mobile solutions for healthcare, education, and governance. He holds a MSc in Systems Engineering, and is pursuing a Master's in Technology Management at Georgetown University. Pablo provides end-to-end project implementation, including technology analysis, design, power solutions, development, team leadership, and deployment, with extensive experience in Latin America and Africa.

John Etherton (USA): John Etherton as an Ushahidi Trusted Developer. In addition to being the technical brains behind [Ushahidi Liberia](#), he is a passionate and prolific contributor within Ushahidi Developer community. John often shares his knowledge with new deployers and community members. When we launched [Tunis 2.1](#) and further releases. John contributed extensively to testing. See a full list of [his community contributions, including the many plugins](#). John is currently based in Denver, Colorado, USA. For more information on John visit his blog: <http://johnetherton.com/>, and for more about his development services visit his company's website: <http://ethertontech.com/>

Sara Farmer (UK, USA): Sara is a data nerd with a crismapping habit. She's a Standby Task Force core team member, has led various parts of CrisisCommons and spends a lot of her spare time building code for this space, and mentoring teams building socially useful systems though [Geeks without Bounds](#) and [Random Hacks of Kindness](#). Her day job is CTO of Change Assembly, a startup dedicated to improving the availability of human development and crisis data.

Aaron Huslage (USA): Aaron is a co-founder of [Tethr](#), which is delivering worldwide on-demand communications to people and organizations all around the world. He was a co-founder of [Safecast](#) which provides crowdsourced radiation monitoring data to Japan. Aaron serves on the board of advisors of [Geeks without Bounds](#) and active in the [Random Hacks of Kindness](#) community.

Seth Kigen(Kenya): Seth is a software developer/GIS consultant who has been actively involved in both developing visualization tools and providing training services to several organizations on how to utilize free and open source GIS/visualization tools to support informed decision making.

Ajay Kumar (India, Netherlands): Ajay is a technologist and development professional with interest in application of ICTs for social benefit from the small town, [Bokaro Steel City](#) in India. He works on application of ICTs for social benefit and believes in applying technology to help people & communities. He also likes to tell stories and learn by traveling. With a background in Software Engineering, his main areas of interests are: Human Aspects of Technology & Human Centered Design, User Experience Design, ICTs for Development & ICTs in Disaster Management.

He recently moved to The Netherlands to study Philosophy of Science, Technology & Society at [University of Twente](#) and reflect on how technology affects human behaviour and society. More about him can be found at <http://aju.bz/me>.

Dunstan Machoka (Kenya): Dunstan is the CEO of [BTI Millman Limited](#) an ICT solution provider based in Nairobi. He is a graduate from the University of Nairobi with Bsc. Electrical and Electronics Engineering and is currently pursuing his Masters in Public Policy and Administration. Dunstan is the team leader behind the development and deployment of The [eMazingira](#) Platform. This is an Ushahidi deployment that enables the real-time mapping of environmental incidents. Together with other reporting mechanisms the platform enables citizen participation in environmental conservation. The initiative has earned the team local and international awards including The Tandaa Grant Award-2010, United Nations World Youth Summit Award-2011 and The African Business Awards-Award for Environmental Sustainability in 2012. Apart from this other initiative done include The Kusanya Mobile Data Collection System currently used by the United States Presidents' Malaria Initiative Program targeting malaria prevention in 15 African Countries with successful deployments in Ghana and Ethiopia.

Hiroshi Miura (Japan): Hiroshi is a Sub-leader of [Sinsai.info](#) / Representative director of [OpenStreetMap Foundation Japan](#). He has been in charge of operating and leading Sinsai.info, Japanese Ushahidi responded to disaster in 311. OpenStreetMap Foundation Japan has been responsible to provide sinsai.info service and management. He is also active as evangelist of Open Source Software, recently lead as director of Human Resource Development WG in Japan OSS promotion forum. He has been involved in development of Linux, Samba, OSM tools and so many OSSes.

Tarik Nesh-Nash (Morocco): Tarik is the CEO of [Software Centre](#), a software R&D startup based in Morocco. He previously worked as a manager at Microsoft in Seattle and Beijing, and as a delegate in Iraq at the International Committee of the Red Cross. Tarik is on the board of [Transparency Maroc](#), the national chapter of Transparency International, and a member of The Regional Council of Human Rights, a national institution for the promotion and protection of Human Rights.

He founded many political crowdsourcing initiatives particularly related to constitutional drafting, election monitoring and corruption fighting. He is interested on applying technology to concepts related to participatory democracy. He has a master's degree in Computer Sciences and a bachelor in law.

Hal Seki (Japan): Managing Director of [Sinsai.info](#) / CEO of [Georepublic Japan](#). He has been in charge of leading Sinsai.info, a website using Ushahidi platform to provide information about the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, as a member of [OpenStreetMap Foundation JapanHack For Japan](#) which is a community for technicians to encourages them to use their skills for something good for Japan. Hal is well-known as an organiser of a largest non-commercial industrial conference for location-based services called Geomedia Summit in Japan.

Mr. Evoltech (Dennison Williams) (USA): [Dennison](#) is a developer with the [March-Hare Communications Collective](#) which provides communication tools to anti-authoritarian actors engaged in hostile environments. He has contributed [patches and development direction to Ushahidi Core](#), developed a few custom Ushahidi modules, themes and mobile applications, and has contributed to security audits.