Ushahidi Public API

The "Public API" is termed as such because it does not require any authentication to access and/or use. This part of the API is restricted to (public domain) information retrieval and report submission. The sections that follow outline the various tasks that may be performed using this part of the API.

Reports

Reports are retrieved by sending a HTTP GET request to the base URL with incidents as the task parameter. Only approved reports are fetched.

Request Example

```
http://<deployment_url>/api?task=incidents
```

Optional Request Parameters

Parameter	Description	Example
sinceid	Least report id that should be returned	`&by=sinceid&id=10`
maxid	Maximum report id that should be returned	`&by=maxid&id=500`
incidentid	Retrieve a single report using its id	`&by=incidentid&id=50`
locname	Get reports tagged with a specific location name	`&by=locname&name=Nairobi`
locid	Get reports tagged with a location with the specified id	`&by=locid&id=12`
cat name	Get reports that belong to a specified category name	`&by=catname&name=Health`
catid	Get reports that belong to a category with a id	`&by=catid&id=12`

Returned Values

The reports request returns JSON with top-level fields payload, error.

- The error field contains message, code; a reports list with no errors should contain message="No Error" and code=0.
- The payload field contains the reports list, and has top-level fields domain, incidents. Domain contains the URL of the ushahidi instance; incidents contains the list of reports. So if your API result goes into variable "result", your incidents list will be in result['payload']['incidents']
- The top-level fields returned for each incident are media, incident, customfields, comments, categories.
- The fields in incident are:

Parameter	Description	Example
incidentid		
incidenttitle		
incidentdescription		

incidentdate		
incidentactive	Flag for report approved	1=approved, 0=unapproved
incidentverified	Flag for report verified	1=verified, 0-unverified
incidentmode	Method of report submission	1=web, 2=sms, 3=email, 4=twitter
locationid		
locationname		
locationlatitude		
locationlongitude		

Submitting a Report

A report is submitted by sending a HTTP POST request to the base URL with report as the task parameter. Additionally, the following parameters must also be specified

Request Example

```
http://<deployment_url>/?task=report
```

Required Parameters

Parameter	Description	Example
incident_title	Title of the report	`Cats crossing the road`
incident_description	Description of the report	`The cats were dressed in bow ties and the top cat was playing a tambourine`
incident_date	Date when the event being reported took place. The date format is mm/dd/yyyy	`01/01/2010`
incident_hour	Hour component of the time when the event took place. It must be in the 12 hour format	`8`
incident_minute	Minute component of the time when the event took place.	`53`
incident_ampm	Did the event take place in the AM or PM	`am`
incident_category	The category id (or list of category ids) under which the report should be filed	`1,10`
latitude	Latitude of the report's location	`-1.00384764`
longitude	Longitude of the report's location	`36.48587550`
location_name	Name of the location associated with the report	`Meow Island`

Optional Parameters

Parameter	Description	Example

person_first	First name of the person submitting the report	`John`
person_last	Last name of the person submitting the report	`Doe`
person_email	Email address of the person submitting the report	`johndoe@example.com`
incident_photo	Photo(s) to accompany the report	None
incident_video	A video link (from YouTube, Metacafe, Vimeo etc) related to the report	`http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08pVpBq706k`
incident_news	News links related to the report	`http://news.com/that-cat-was-so-badass`

Categories

Categories are retrieved by sending a HTTP GET request to the base URL with categories as the task parameter. Only visible categories are fetched.

Request Example

```
http://<deployment_url>/api?task=categories
```

Optional Request Parameters

Parameter	Description	Example
catid	Get the category with the specified id	`&by=catid&id=5`

Locations

Locations are retrieved by sending a HTTP GET request to the base URL with locations as the task parameter

Request Example

```
http://<deployment_url>/api?task=locations
```

Optional Request Parameters

Parameter	Description	Example
locid	Get a location using its id	`&by=locid&id=12`
countryid	Get a location using the id of the country it belongs to (only applies where a deployment spans more than one country)	`&by=countryid&id=12`

Comments

Comments are retrieved by sending a HTTP GET request to the base URL with comments as the task parameter. In addition to the task parameter, the request URL must also specify the by parameter. The table below lists and describes the possible values for this parameter

Request Parameters

Parameter	Description	Example
all	Gets all the comments	`&by=all`
reportid	Gets all the comments for a specific report. The report id must be specified.	`&by=reportid&id=5`
spam	Gets all the comments marked as spam	`&by=spam`
pending	Gets all the comments awaiting approval (The admin must approve comments before they can be publicly viewable)	`&by=pending`
approved	Gets all the approved comments	`&by=approved`

Countries

Countries are retrieved by sending a HTTP GET request to the base URL with countries as the task parameter.

Request Example

```
http://<deployment_url>/api?task=countries
```

Optional Request Parameters

Parameter	Description	Example
countryid	Get a single country using its id	`&by=countryid&id=1`
coutryiso	Get a country using its ISO code	`&by=countryiso&iso=KE`
countryname	Get a country using its name	`&by=countryname&name=Kenya`

Custom Forms

Custom forms are retrieved by sending a HTTP GET request to the base URL with customforms as the task parameter

Request Example

```
http://<deployment_url>/api?task=customforms
```

Optional Request Parameters

Parameter	Description	Example
all	Get all custom form ids	&by=all
fields	Get custom form fields and values by incident id	&by=fields&id=0
meta	Get custom form definition by their form id retrieved with by=all	&by=meta&formid=0

versionMiscellaneous

Returns the version of Ushahidi running along with some key settings.

Request Example

```
http://<deployment_url>/api?task=version
```

Feature descriptions

The version api task returns an array of features supported by the deployment. Possible features returned are:

- admin_reports_v2 : Improvements to the Admin reports task.
  Support sort, limit and orderfield params. Support GET requests for read-only tasks. Support by=all param.
- jsonp : Supports JSONP API response type (usage: &resp=jsonp&callback=mycallback)
- api_key : Supports the API key task. This is only ever marked as false, as it was removed in Ushahidi 2.6