Contribution ID: **43** Type: **Poster Presentation**

THE VIRTUAL REALITY (VR) TRAINING SYSTEM FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

In last 30 years, Nepal is hit by a wide-ranging variety of natural disasters that shook the nation. That has caused loss of thousands of life and million worth property. Floods occur with the greatest frequency all over the Nepal. Flooding is followed by landslides, forest fire, thunderstorm etc. Occurrence of these disaster is not known spatially and temporally and need to be prepared when they do. Emergency and response teams can minimize casualties if they get the right kinds of training. Virtual reality is an advanced technology that may be used for this purpose. It provides users with artificial worlds that they can interact with and explore in virtual environment in same phenomenon as disaster occurs. Emergency and response team can spend time in these digital environments while they enhance their skills in dealing with disasters.

This paper aims to evaluate the potential uses of Virtual Reality (VR) technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) education. It presents an analysis of the state of virtual reality training systems, its prerequisite and outline the need of National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC) for disaster response and relief with an explicit focus on disaster preparedness. This paper discusses the application of VR technology in addressing disaster preparedness challenges as effective training in preparing emergency and response team more effective and efficient for work in disaster conditions in real environments in Nepal. Virtual reality could be the excellent way to help emergency and response team become more aware of a perilous risks of a disaster.

Summary

Keywords: Disaster, Virtual Reality, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Training and Education, Nepal

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Track Classification: Virtual Research Environment (including Middleware, tools, services, workflow, … etc.)