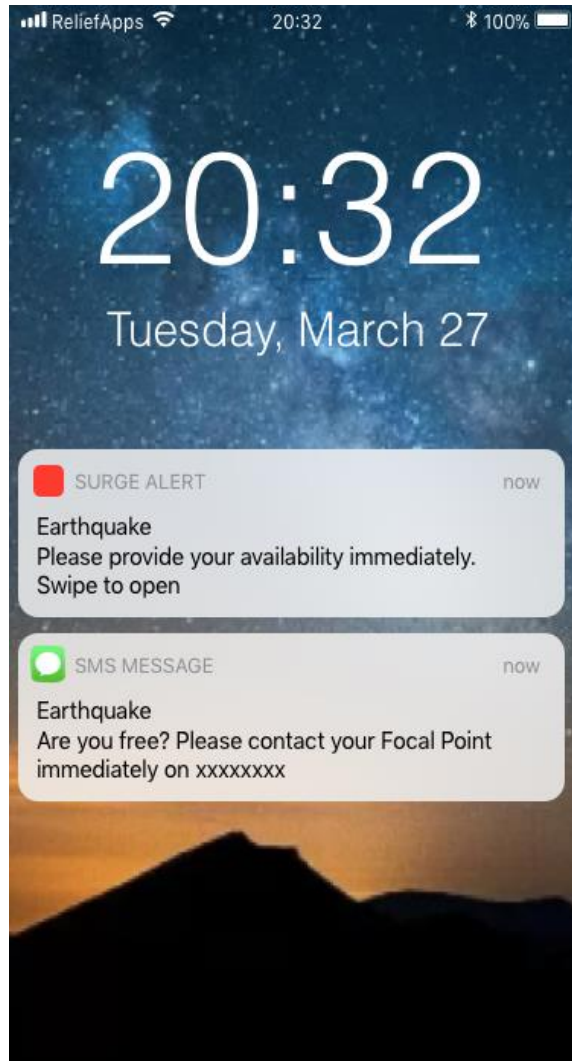
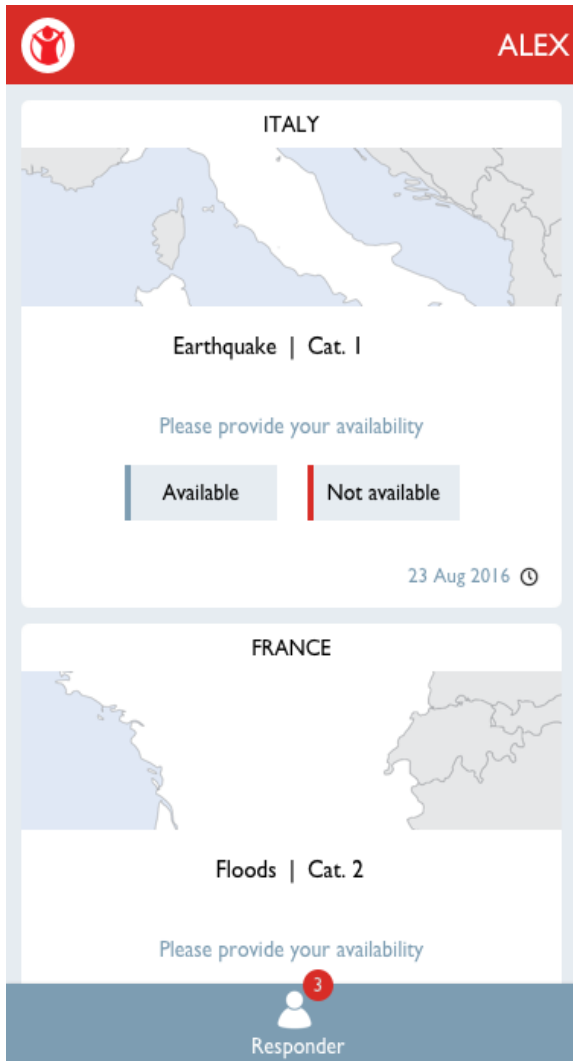




Save the Children



# Responding Quicker

Mobile Tools to Improve Humanitarian Team Deployment

## The Problem

When disaster strikes, Save the Children and other humanitarian organizations need to immediately prepare and deploy teams and resources to help affected communities. Based on our research, we discovered that there are no dedicated digital platforms for recruiting and deploying the right teams with the ideal mix of skills, experience, language abilities and availability, which hinders the speed at which we can offer assistance. Currently, the humanitarian sector relies on a combination of emails, hard-to-manage spreadsheets, and late-night texts or phone calls in order to deploy their surge teams in a timely fashion. The result is a painstaking, error-prone process that is often delayed. In a humanitarian response situation, hours and minutes equate to lives lost; the faster we can deploy our resources, the more lives we can save.

## Our Innovative Idea

Save the Children is leading the sector by working to build, test and replicate a “first responder” mobile application to automate the creation of surge response teams. Using cutting-edge liquid workforce tools and matching algorithms based on staff experience and profiles, the app will be used to notify, confirm availability, obtain approval from line managers and aggregate the most qualified team on deck to respond. Individual responders will receive a phone alert with basic information about the emergency, which they can then respond to based on their availability. Those responses can be collated and viewed on the app, reducing the time it takes to produce this information from days to hours.

## Our Progress to Date

Our team partnered with Relief Applications, a company made up of IT experts and developers whose mission it is to create simple yet efficient IT solutions to increase the impact of humanitarian assistance. The team collaborated closely with Save the Children’s Humanitarian Surge Working Group to think through different user types and data access levels as well as the Initial Response Team to run a test simulation measuring our current system’s response lag time. Coordination was top of mind, as every member currently collects data in a different way, as was accessibility, as responders often face limited internet connectivity. Now, with a downloadable beta version of the app, the team is sharing their progress and seeking feedback through demonstrations and simulations with responders.

### Become an Innovation Investor

Partnerships are critical to all of the work we do at Save the Children. Our partners provide the skills, networks and resources we need to develop, test, replicate and scale the most promising innovations for children.

**Invest Time or Skills:** Because technology is at the core of this project, partners with skills in UI/UX design can play a unique role in the further development of this application as we test its functionality, accuracy of data collection and user friendliness. Our beta testing will allow us to make recommended adaptations and roll out the project for use in 2019.

**Accelerate the Pilot:** Through your financial contribution, you can help us:

- refine and enhance the mobile app,
- support additional testing and/or
- expand the use of our new technology by attracting early adopters.

We will work with you to find the best fit based on your interests and the needs of our project.