



Saving Lives

## The Role of Remote Sensing in Disaster Management



Co-Organized by:



### 1. Background

Remote sensing systems have proven to be invaluable sources of information that enable the disaster management community to make critical decisions based on obtained information for better preparedness and initial assessments of the nature and magnitude of damage and destruction. High-resolution remote sensing data is especially useful for documenting certain hazards, for determining where to stage response facilities and supplies, and for planning related to reconstruction and relocation activities. Data availability and its timely delivery are crucial to saving lives and property during disasters, and technological developments are making positive contributions in this area. Some of the most significant progress in disaster reduction is being made in mitigation using historical and contemporary remote sensing data in combination with other geospatial data sets as input to predictive models and early warning systems.

New remote sensing developments supporting disaster mitigation and response need to be used from the international and national stakeholders and issues as data access, timeliness, appropriateness, data sharing, training, transnational cooperation are the key elements for an appropriate disaster management framework from the international and national communities.

### 2. Purpose of the event

The purpose of this event is to explore the critical role of remote sensing technologies in providing timely and quality information that facilitates the work of the disaster management community especially, as they make critical decisions for better disaster preparedness, conducting assessments and carrying out disaster response activities. The discussion will draw from the experience of United Nations Agencies and other specialist entities particularly those that use Remote Sensing for disaster management. Attention will also be focused on the link between the application of Remote Sensing data and observations, and the associated benefits arising from effective spectrum management.

Time will be dedicated to discuss the application and use of the International Charter on **Space and Major Disasters** which addresses the unified system of space data acquisition and delivery to those affected by natural or man-made disasters through authorized users.

Regional perspectives on the use of remote sensing for disaster management will be provided by practitioners from Africa, Americas, and Asia and the Pacific.

### 3. Expected outcomes

At the end of this workshop, participants would have benefitted from diverse knowledge and information delivered by experts with hands-on experience. The event will contribute to ongoing efforts of capacity building in this area. The output will also make an invaluable contribution to ITU's work in Remote Sensing, particularly, as discussed under ITU-D Study Group 2 Question 22/2 on the *Utilization of ICT for disaster management, resources, and active and passive space-based sensing systems as they apply to disaster and emergency relief situation*. The ongoing work of GEO and CNES, will equally make an immense contribution.

**4. Language:** English

**5. Registration:** Download from: [www.itu.int/itu-D/globalforum](http://www.itu.int/itu-D/globalforum)

### 6. General Information

**Location:** Venue: Room A, ITU Tower Building (-2 Basement)

**Dates:** 10 December -11 December 2007

**Website:** Detailed information available at: [www.itu.int/ITU-D/globalforum](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/globalforum)  
and [http://www.earthobservations.org/meetings/meeting\\_071211\\_di.html](http://www.earthobservations.org/meetings/meeting_071211_di.html)

**Agenda:** See attached document.

### 7. Exhibition Space

**Location:** Level: Basement (-1) of CICG. Exhibitors will show-case their products/services relevant to Disaster Management.

**Deadline** to book exhibition space is 30 November 2007. Exhibitors will be contacted by the Organizing Committee for further details.

#### Contact Points:

GEO Secretariat

**Giovanni Rum**

**Email:** [grum@geosec.org](mailto:grum@geosec.org)

**Telephone:** +41 22 730 8452

ITU/BDT Secretariat

**Paola De Salvo**

**Email:** [emergencytelecom-globalforum@itu.int](mailto:emergencytelecom-globalforum@itu.int)

**Telephone :** +41-22-7306306

**DAY ONE: Monday, 10 December 2007**

**16.45 – 17.30**

**Opening Session of the Workshop**

- Mr. G. Rum: Chairman's Opening Remarks: **Overview and objectives of the Remote Sensing Workshop**
- Mr. Valery Timofeev, Director Radiocommunication Bureau, International Telecommunication Union, (ITU)
- Mr. Jose Achache, Secretariat Director, Group on Earth Observation, (GEO)

Venue: Salle 5/6 CICC

**DAY TWO: Tuesday, 11 December 2007**

**10.00 – 11.15**

**Overview: highlighting activities of United Nations Agencies using Remote Sensing**

Summary of the first day - Chairman

1. Mr. A. Vassiliev, Radiocommunication Bureau, International Telecommunication Union, (ITU)  
**ITU Activities in Remote Sensing**
2. Dr. P. Basabe, International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, (UNISDR)  
**The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the Hyogo Framework for Action**
3. Mr. E. Bjorgo, United Nations Operational Satellites Applications Programme, (UNOSAT)  
**UNOSAT activities and services**
4. Mr. D. Stevens / J. Szarzynski, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, (UNOOSA)  
**The SPIDER Programme**
5. Speaker TBD, (IGOS/GCOS/CEOS/GEO)  
**User viewpoint on Remote Sensing data utilization.**
6. Dr. Maryam Golnaraghi, World Meteorological Organization, (WMO)  
**Remote Sensing Activities of the Disaster Risk Reduction Programme**

Venue: Room A ITU Tower -2

**11.15-11.30**

**Coffee Break**

**11.30 - 12.00**

**Remote Sensing Systems, Applications and Spectrum Allocations**

1. Speaker TBD, Italian Space Agency (ASI)  
**Active Remote Sensing allocations, sensors, measurements and applications.**
2. Mr. Tom von Deak, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)  
**Passive Remote Sensing allocations, sensors, measurements and applications**
3. Mr. J.Pla, Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales, (CNES)  
**Results of WRC 2007 with respect to Remote Sensing**

Venue: Room A ITU Tower -2

<b>12.00-12.30</b>	<b>Remote Sensing and Emergency Management</b>
<p>1. Mr. A. Husson, Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales, (CNES)  <b>The International Charter "Space and Major Disasters"</b>.</p> <p>2. Mr. G. Seguin, Canadian Space Agency, (CSA)  <b>Use of Satellites for Risk Management; A key task of the GEO Workplan.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Venue: Room A ITU Tower -2</p>	
<b>12.30-13.30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13.30-14.30</b>	<b>Regional Perspectives</b>
<p>1. Mr. J. Perez, Centro del Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América Latina y el Caribe, (CATHALAC)  <b>SERVIR MesoAmerican Remote Sensing consortium</b></p> <p>2. Mr. Y. Osawa, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, (JAXA)  <b>Emergency observation by "Daichi" and Sentinel Asia</b></p> <p>3. Mr. T. Korme, Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development, (RCMRD)  <b>Remote Sensing and disaster management in Africa</b></p> <p>4. Mr. Imraan Salojee, Group on Earth Observation,(GEO)  <b>GEO Capacity Building roadmap and actions</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Venue: Room A ITU Tower -2</p>	
<b>14.30-15.45</b>	<b>Panel Discussion and Conclusions</b> <b>Recap of the Workshop Sessions</b> <b>Finalization of recommendations to the Global Forum</b>
<p>1. Mr. J. Pla, Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES),</p> <p>2. Mr. G.Rum, Group on Earth Observation (GEO),</p> <p>3. Ms. P. De Salvo, International Telecommunication Union (ITU),</p> <p>4. Dr M. Golnaraghi, World Meteorological Organization (WMO),</p> <p>5. Mr. T. Korme, Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD),</p> <p>6. Mr. J. Perez, Centro del Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América Latina y el Caribe (CATHALAC).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Venue: Room A ITU Tower -2</p>	
<b>15.45-16.00 Coffee Break</b>	