Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM) Exchange Forum

“Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer”

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United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
The core business of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs is “to promote international cooperation in the use of outer space to achieve development goals for the benefit of humankind”.
Space is a growing business ....

... with an expected increase of over 50% in the decade from 2011-2020 with a forecast of over 1100 satellites.

GSTB-V2/B satellite (artist impression)  
Credits: ESA

NigeriaSat-2 over Africa  
Credits: SSTL
The Work of the Office

The United Nations Programme on Space Applications (1971)


UN-affiliated Regional Centres for Space Science and Technology Education in Brazil/Mexico, India, Morocco and Nigeria (1982)
UN-SPIDER: Mission and Mandate

On 14 December 2006 the United Nations General Assembly, established UN-SPIDER as a programme implemented by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), with the following mission statement:

“Ensure that all countries and international and regional organizations have access to and develop the capacity to use all types of space-based information to support the full disaster management cycle.”

• Especially by being a gateway to space information for disaster management support;
• serving as a bridge to connect the disaster management and space communities; and
• being a facilitator of capacity-building and institutional strengthening (A/RES/61/110).

http://www.un-s whisk.org
Images from earth observing satellites help assess the damage caused by disasters and assess vulnerability to hazards.

Satellite communications help warn people who are at risk, especially in remote areas. They help connect a disaster zone to the outside world.

Global navigation satellite systems enable us to obtain positional information on events that have to be mapped.
The UN-SPIDER Programme

- UN-SPIDER Team
- Network of Regional Support Offices (RSOs) (10 + 5)
- National Focal Points (45)
Knowledge Portal

A web portal for information, communication, and process support. A platform which supports knowledge management, capacity building, technical advisory support and support to emergency and humanitarian assistance. [http://www.un-spider.org](http://www.un-spider.org)
Earthquake hit 06:34 UTC time – UNOOSA activated the International Charter and other mechanisms at 13:23 UTC time in coordination with other UN agencies and CONAE (the Argentinean Space Agency). RapidEye covered the tsunami affected area on the same day. Imagery was sent to ONEMI through UN-SPIDER and was the basis of the initial impact assessment. UN-SPIDER carried out a technical advisory mission at the request of the Chilean Government.
Ensuring the end-users benefit

“The only tools and information you will use and trust in a crisis are the ones you have been using already”
Sharing of Geospatial Data and Information

“Limited access to existing geospatial data and information is one of the main impediments to ensuring that countries are able to benefit from space-based information.”
Take advantage of the crowd

“There is a need to take advantage of the crowd, the internet and the increasing volume of data being made available”
THANK-YOU