

**Chengdu Forum on UN-GGIM
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Development and Applications in Urban Hazard Mapping
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Session 3: Geospatial Challenges in Responding to Urban Disasters

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**Responses and opportunities for recovery and SDI development following the
Canterbury Earthquakes in New Zealand**

Abstract

The series of earthquakes that hit the Canterbury Region of New Zealand's South Island in 2010 and 2011 caused significant loss of life and disruption to people's daily lives. The economic impacts to the nation are significant, both in terms of losses through disruption to business and the cost of the rebuild.

At previous meetings we have illustrated the role that geospatial information and related services played in the immediate aftermath of the last major quake in 2011 in supporting the response and recovery activities in Canterbury.

This presentation looks at how the successful use of geospatial information in the initial response to the quakes has been used to illustrate the benefits that could be achieved through the better use of geodata in a more mature Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI).

This demonstration of benefits has led to the release of additional government funding which will support eight SDI-related projects, to run over the next three years. These projects will support the long term recovery efforts in Canterbury by accelerating the development of a regional SDI. In turn the lessons learned through these regionally focused projects will be used to guide the further development of New Zealand's national SDI.