

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Tenth session

New York, 26- 27 August 2020 and 4 September 2020

Item 10 of the agenda

Geospatial information and services for disasters (for discussion and decision)

Statement provided by:

GERMANY

Statement:

GERMANY welcomes the report of the working group on geospatial information and services for disaster and appreciates in particular the work done by the working group during the COVID-19 pandemic to promote and support the use and integration of geospatial information for disaster monitoring, management and recovery processes among member states.

GERMANY also welcomes the capacity building activities of the working group to enhance the use of geospatial information and services in disaster risk management. Though, we encourage broadening both, the geographical coverage but also the coverage of interdisciplinary disciplines (e.g. economic and social disciplines) of capacity building activities and participants.

The completion of the Assessment Survey is an important tool in order to enhance and to compare the understanding of the status national geospatial information and geo-services in different countries. GERMANY encourages and supports the idea of having more member states to take the survey.

GERMANY further encourages the working group to expand on possibilities of geospatial information and services covering all dimensions of disaster risk, including hazard, exposure and vulnerability, to enhance disaster preparedness and strengthen resilience. With this in mind, geospatial information and services may further enhance to implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and can especially contribute to the monitoring of Sendai framework targets and indicators, as well as the disaster related indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

GERMANY, as an example, contributes to monitoring of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction with the “Cop4Sen Project” and the “EO4SendaiMonitoring” initiative in the Group on Earth Observation (GEO), that leverage the potentials of remote sensing data and services as well as other geospatial information for the derivation and monitoring of the Sendai framework indicators and the SDG indicators.

GERMANY, finally, commends the working group to describe potential links and/or synergies with the Global Risk Assessment Framework (GRAF) and the working groups established by the Group on Earth Observation (GEO) in order to avoid duplication of efforts of the organizations undertaking disaster risk management activities.

Thank you.

Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance (BBK), Germany

Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG), Germany

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