This service summarizes current satellite mapping activities of interest to GDACS stakeholders. It is issued weekly and based on contributions from map-producing entities and GDACS partners.

Satellite mapping overview

As of 4 January 2014

Middle East

Gaza floods – GLIDE number: CW-2013-000153-PSE

Following a significant winter storm (Alexa) in the Middle East from early to mid-December 2013, flood waters in the Gaza Strip were detected by the Pléiades satellite on 19 December 2013. Imagery illustrates standing water covering agricultural fields, residential areas, streets and vacant zones south of the Dayr al-Balah area as well as in Gaza City and Jibaliya. Isolated instances of standing water are also visible in a few nearby industrial and agricultural areas. Map products, including atlases with detailed satellite imagery coverage of Gaza City to the Bayt Lahiya area and of Dayr al-Balah to the Jarara area, are available in PDF format on the UNITAR/UNOSAT website.

Source: UNITAR/UNOSAT, International Charter Space and Major Disasters

Link: http://www.disasterscharter.org/web/charter/activation_details?p_r_p_1415474252_assetId=ACT-470

Europe

England floods – GLIDE number: TBD

A storm surge occurring in the United Kingdom from 5 to 6 December 2013 resulted in record sea levels in several locations. TerraSar-X radar imagery from 8 December 2013 and SPOT-5 optical imagery from 6 December 2013 depict flooding of England's eastern coastline. Approximately 1,400 properties along the coast of North East Yorkshire, the East Midlands, Northern Anglian, Central Anglian, and Eastern Anglian were flooded by the tidal surge.

Source: Environment Agency (of England and Wales), International Charter Space and Major Disasters

Link: http://www.disasterscharter.org/web/charter/activation_details?p_r_p_1415474252_assetId=ACT-469

Italy floods – GLIDE number: EMSR062*

Heavy rainfall on 1 December 2013 caused severe flooding in Central and Southern Italy. Flood waters in the Basilicata, Puglia and Abruzzo regions were identified using WorldView-2, GeoEye-1, Pléiades, SPOT-6 and Quickbird-2 satellite imagery acquired the 4, 5 and 6 December 2013. The

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Pescara, Metaponto, Teramo and Fortore areas were particularly affected with an evacuation of several hundred inhabitants as waters reached residential, institutional, recreational and industrial zones as well as roads, railways, croplands and woodlands. Map products for this event are available in JPEG, PDF and TIFF formats as well as a downloadable zipped vector package. Data can be accessed in GeoTIFF, GeoPDF, GeoJPEG and vector (shapefile and KML) formats.

Source: Copernicus Emergency Management Service

Link: http://emergency.copernicus.eu/mapping/list-of-components/EMSR062

Poland wind storm – GLIDE number: EMSR064*

Between 24 and 27 December 2013, Poland experienced a wind storm passing through the Tatra mountains that caused substantial damage to buildings, infrastructure, and forests. Using Pléiades and SPOT imagery acquired 3 January 2014, analysis by Copernicus illustrates highly, moderately, and possibly affected zones in the city of Zakopane and its surrounding area. Map products for this event are available in JPEG, PDF and TIFF formats as well as a downloadable zipped vector package. Data can be accessed in GeoTIFF, GeoPDF, GeoJPEG and vector (shapefile and KML) formats.

Source: Copernicus Emergency Management Service

Link: http://emergency.copernicus.eu/mapping/list-of-components/EMSR064

Africa

South Sudan complex emergency – GLIDE number: OT-2014-000001-SSD

As a result of escalating violence in South Sudan during the month of December 2013, over 30,000 civilians sought refuge in United Nations facilities. Images collected by the Pléiades and WorldView-2 satellites on 18, 20, and 28 December 2013 illustrate the expansion of temporary and makeshift IDP shelters as well as heavy foot traffic along the main road of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) base at Juba airport, Central Equatoria State. While IDPs occupied less than one hectare of area on 18 December, by 20 December they covered 2.8 hectares, and by 28 December this area had increased to 7 hectares. In the town of Bor, Jonglei State, two WorldView-2 images acquired on 23 and 31 December 2013 depict the progression of an IDP camp adjacent to another UNMISS base. Although this camp was occupied by approximately 14,000 IDPs on 23 December, by 31 December this figure had substantially decreased. UNOSAT maps of this complex emergency are available for download as PDFs.

Source: UNITAR/UNOSAT

Links: http://www.unitar.org/unosat/maps/110

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Central African Republic complex emergency – GLIDE number: OT-2013-000152-CAF

Increasing turmoil in the Central African Republic during the month of December 2013 caused a growth in the number of the country's IDPs. A WorldView-1 image from 5 December 2013 and a QuickBird image from 11 December 2013 detected an area of 26 hectares with possible IDP camps in the southern portion of Bossangoa, Ouham Province. Another potential IDP camp location of 14 hectares was observed in the central part of the town and an area with less than 50 shelters was detected 13 kilometers to the northeast of Bossangoa. QuickBird satellite imagery acquired on 16 and 28 December 2013 also indicated areas of IDPs living in shelters and in the open at Bangui's M'Poko Airport. While 6.4 hectares were occupied by IDPs on 16 December, by 28 December UNOSAT delineated 28.7 hectares that were covered. Likewise, the number of visible IDP shelters increased from 1,600 to 7,100 during this time. These figures may, however, represent a significant underestimation. UNOSAT maps for this complex emergency are available to download as PDFs.

Source: UNITAR/UNOSAT

Link: http://www.unitar.org/unosat/maps/113

Somalia complex emergency – GLIDE number: CE-2013-0710-SOM*

A total of 324 spatially distinct IDP shelter concentrations were identified as of 24 November 2013 within Mogadishu, representing a decrease of 56 IDP sites since the last UNOSAT analysis which used an image from 13 June 2013. An estimate of the total number of IDP structures located in Mogadishu indicates a minimum figure of at least 55,000 mostly informal shelters. The number of IDP camps has significantly reduced in multiple areas of Mogadishu. This report is the sixth in a series of IDP analyses done by UNOSAT since 2011 and is based on a time-series analysis of shelter concentrations within the city of Mogadishu using multiple satellite images acquired between 30 March 2011 and 24 November 2013. Product links provide access to this report as a PDF and its accompanying geodatabase in ESRI format.

Source: UNITAR/UNOSAT

Link: http://www.unitar.org/unosat/node/44/1903

Somalia floods – GLIDE number: FL-2013-000141-SOM

Due to continuous rainfall from late August 2013 to December 2013, the lower Shabelle River in Somalia flooded for months and consequently rendered thousands of people homeless. A MODIS true-color image from 4 December 2013 detects the flooding that has impacted 33 villages and inundated vast agricultural areas in the Jowhar District. NASA's MODIS imagery, including a pre-flood scene from 28 December 2012, can be downloaded as a JPEG or KMZ file.

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Source: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Earth Observatory

Link: http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=82513

This summary is compiled by the GDACS mapping & satellite imagery coordination mechanism, operated by the UNITAR Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT).
When referring to this summary, please credit: GDACS, UNITAR/UNOSAT
For comments, questions and to submit information on satellite image derived products, please contact: maps@gdacs.org

Sources indicate satellite analysis production entities and imagery providers. The products referenced in this summary are based on remote satellite imagery and may not be validated in the field prior to release, in which case findings are based only on what is observed in the satellite imagery.

**Not an official GLIDE number, as event has no entry in GLIDE database, but used by GDACS for seamless information integration.*