

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 11 June 2018

Americas

Guatemala volcano eruption – GLIDE number: VO-2018-000066-GTM

On 3 June 2018, Volcan de Fuego, located in Southern Guatemala, experienced a strong eruption, inducing pyroclastic flow along with ash and small rocks emissions. Another eruption occurred on 5 June 2018 while SAR operations were ongoing. El Rodeo and San Miguel Los Lotes are the most affected towns. The international Space Charter has been activated and UNITAR-UNOSAT has released an estimation of damaged buildings in San Miguel Los Lotes area. Copernicus EMS is also activated and is producing delineation maps grading maps. Analysis are mainly focused on El Rodeo, San Miguel Los Lotes, La Reunion and Alotenango.

Source: UNITAR-UNOSAT, Copernicus EMS and International Charter Space & Major Disasters

Links:

<http://unitar.org/unosat/maps/GTM>

<http://emergency.copernicus.eu/mapping/list-of-components/EMSR289>

<https://disasterscharter.org/web/guest/-/volcano-in-guatemala-activation-576->

Middle East

Yemen tropical cyclone – UNOSAT number: TC20180525YEM

The tropical cyclone Mekunu-18 formed in the Arabian Sea on 22 May 2018 and made landfall on the Arabian Peninsula between 25 and 26 May 2018, bringing sustained rainfall and winds to the eastern mainland of Yemen and to the Yemeni archipelago of Socotra. The international Space Charter has been triggered by the Department for International Development UK and UNITAR-UNOSAT has released a preliminary and rapid analysis of the situation over Samha island, in the Socotra Governorate.

Source: UNITAR-UNOSAT

Link: <http://unitar.org/unosat/maps/YEM>

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Africa

Democratic Republic of Congo Ebola outbreak – GLIDE number: EP-2018-000049-COD

A new outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) was declared by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo on 8 May 2018. The epicentre is the Bikoro District in the Equateur Province, western DRC. As of 7 June 2018, a total of 62 Ebola virus disease cases (counting confirmed, probable and suspected) were reported in Bikoro and Mbandaka.

Source: ReliefWeb

Links: <https://reliefweb.int/map/democratic-republic-congo/democratic-republic-congo-status-ebola-outbreak-8-june-2018>

Europe

Sweden forest fire - Copernicus number: EMSR290

Sweden has experienced several fires during the month of May 2018 after a warm and dry spring, which resulted in very dry vegetation. In the early days of June 2018 a large fire occurred in three different sites in Västmanland: Broddbo, Ulvsbo and Rörbo. Strong winds were making difficult the firefighters' operations to get the fire in control.

Source: Copernicus EMS

Link: <http://emergency.copernicus.eu/mapping/list-of-components/EMSR290>

Oceania

Australia wildfires

In the Northern Territory of Australia, during the dry season, which runs from April to December, fires are occurring very often. Unusually dry weather in May 2018 primed the vegetation for burning. The MODIS sensor on NASA's Aqua satellite observed smoke and dozens of active fires while passing over the region on 5 June 2018.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link: <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=92259>

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Asia

China forest fires

After a prolonged high temperatures and dry conditions, wildfires have broken out in the mountainous region of the northern Chinese province of Inner Mongolia in early June 2018. Fires spread to over 5,000 hectares due to high winds and a dry spring. Over 1300 firefighters have been deployed and more than 4000 people have been evacuated from the affected areas. The international Space Charter has been triggered by the National Disaster Reduction Centre of China.

Source: International Charter Space & Major Disasters

Link: <https://disasterscharter.org/web/guest/activations/-/article/fire-in-china-activation-575->

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.