

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 02 March 2015

Africa

Malawi floods – GLIDE number: FL-2015-000006-MWI

Due to heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding in Malawi beginning in late December 2014, a State of Disaster was declared by the country's President on 13 January 2014. The President requested support from the international community in the form of tents, food items, non-food materials, as well as search and rescue operations. The World Food Program's Logistics Cluster recently released a map of the flood extent in Malawi and air operations as of 17 February 2015. The map incorporates satellite imagery and illustrates civil and military airfields in Sucoma and Bangula, as well as helicopter landing zones in flood-affected areas near schools and IDP camps. This map is available for download as a PDF on the Logistics Cluster website.

Source: World Food Program Logistics Cluster

Link: <http://www.logcluster.org/map/mwi-flood-extent-and-air-operations-26-february-2015>

Middle East

Arabian Peninsula dust storm – GLIDE number: TBD

In late February 2015, a winter storm caused the widespread dispersal of dust and sand over many parts of the Arabian Peninsula for approximately five days. Dust storms are particularly dangerous to those with respiratory diseases and pose a threat to visibility. Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates experienced hundreds of automobile accidents as a result of the storm. The NASA Earth Observatory acquired satellite imagery of the dust storm on 23 and 24 February 2014. An image comparison tool illustrates the trajectory of the storm over these two days as strong winds from the northwest carried the dust from northern Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait to shores of the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Map products are available for online viewing and download in GeoTIFF and JPEG format on the NASA Earth Observatory website.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=85370&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

Iraq complex emergency – GLIDE number: CE20140613IRQ

Ongoing violence in Iraq has caused significant structural damage to some of the country's towns and cities. UNITAR-UNOSAT recently published a damage assessment for the city of Tikrit, located in the Salah ad Din Governorate. Analysis of satellite imagery acquired 30 December 2014 and 19 February 2014 revealed a total of 536 affected structures. Approximately 137 of these were

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destroyed, 241 severely damaged, and 158 moderately damaged. This damage assessment is available for download as a PDF on the UNITAR-UNOSAT website. Accompanying data in shapefile and ESRI geodatabase format can also be accessed through UNITAR-UNOSAT's product links.

Source: UNITAR-UNOSAT

Link: <http://www.unitar.org/unosat/maps/IRQ>

Europe

Spain floods – GLIDE number: EMSR120*

As a result of recent snowfall melt in the Pyrenees, flooding began in the Ebro River Basin on 25 and 26 February 2015. In an effort to aid Disaster Response Authorities, the Copernicus Emergency Management Service produced several reference and delineation maps for floods in Zaragoza Province. Using satellite imagery from 27 February 2015 and 29 December 2014, Copernicus identified 3,651 hectares of flooded area, including residential and urbanized multi-functional settlements, roadways and railways, as well as cropland, scrubland and woodland. Approximately 1,260 inhabitants were affected. Map products are available in JPEG, PDF and TIFF formats as well as a downloadable zipped vector package on the Copernicus Emergency Management Service website. Data can also 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/EMSR120>

North America

United States winter weather – GLIDE number: TBD

Throughout most of February 2015, the eastern part of the United States experienced extremely cold temperatures and snowstorms. The NASA Earth Observatory acquired satellite imagery of this wintry weather on 15, 20, 24 and 25 February 2015. Snow and ice covered the Canada-United States border along the Niagara River, the Hudson River, the Bays of Delaware, Chesapeake, and Raritan, as well as Long Island Sound, Nantucket, Cape Cod, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Block Island. By late February 2015, 84.1 percent of the Great Lakes were covered in ice and activity within New York City's sea port slowed considerably. Six map products are available for online viewing and download in GeoTIFF and JPEG format on the NASA Earth Observatory website.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=85387&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

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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.*