

***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 29 June 2016

### Africa

#### **Northern Africa dust storm – GLIDE number: TBD**

Thick plumes of dust originating from the deserts of northern Africa were caught by winds in mid-June 2016 and transported westward. The NASA Earth Observatory captured 19 June 2016 satellite imagery of the dust storm and created an overview map. At this time, dust was visible to the west of Mauritania and Senegal, hovering over the Atlantic Ocean and part of Cape Verde. The Barcelona Dust Forecast Center predicted that the dust would then move north and reach the Canary Islands by 22 June 2016. Large quantities of dust from Africa are known to have benefits such as fertilizing soil in the Amazon and helping to build beaches in the Caribbean. When such dust storms come into contact with human populations, however, the effects can become problematic as public health problems may arise. This map product is available for online viewing and download in GeoTIFF or JPEG format on the NASA Earth Observatory website.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88251&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

### Europe

#### **Cyprus forest fires – GLIDE number: EMSR168\***

On 18 and 19 June 2016, forest fires broke out near Argaka village and in the Evrychou area of Cyprus. The Copernicus Emergency Management Service created an internal activation for the event on 22 June 2016 and has since produced several maps depicting the situation in the Argaka, Evrychou, Mokounta, and Sina Oros areas. Analysis of satellite imagery collected 21 and 23 June 2016 revealed a total of approximately 50.9 square kilometers of burned area, 50 affected inhabitants, and roughly 117.8 kilometers of impacted roads in these locations. As of 23 June 2016, the justice minister of Cyprus reported that the fire was under control. Nonetheless, hundreds of firefighters and about 80 vehicles remained on alert to extinguish any potential flare-ups on the perimeter of the fire. Map products are available for download in TIFF, PDF, and JPEG formats on the Copernicus Emergency Management Service website. Accompanying zipped vector packages are also provided on this website.

Source: Copernicus Emergency Management Service

Link: <http://emergency.copernicus.eu/mapping/list-of-components/EMSR168>

***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.***

## Middle East

### **Syria complex emergency – GLIDE number: CE20130604SYR**

As a result of continuous violence in Syria, the country's population has experienced significant upheaval. UNITAR-UNOSAT published a new map of shelter density at the Rukban area on the Syria-Jordan border. Using satellite imagery acquired 26 June 2016, UNITAR-UNOSAT identified 7,925 probable shelters along the Jordanian side of the border, situated 25 kilometers southwest of the Al Waleed crossing. This represents an increase of 24 percent in apparent shelters since the previous UNITAR-UNOSAT analysis of 23 May 2016 imagery. According to Amnesty International, as of 22 June 2016 there were more than 70,000 people stranded at the Syria-Jordan border near the Rukban and Hadalat crossings. This map product is available for download as a PDF on the UNITAR-UNOSAT website. Accompanying data in ESRI shapefile and geodatabase format is also accessible on this website.

Source: UNITAR-UNOSAT

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

## North America

### **United States wildfires – GLIDE number: TBD**

The month of June 2016 was marked by some large wildfires in the United States. Southern California experienced two wildfires, one which started on 15 June 2016 in Los Padres National Forest and another on 23 June 2016 northeast of Bakersfield. A fire also broke out in eastern Arizona on 15 June 2016. The NASA Earth Observatory captured 19 and 26 June 2016 satellite imagery of the wildfires and produced several overview maps. On 19 June 2016, a large burn scar was visible in Los Padres National Forest, just north of El Capitan State Beach. The same day, active fires and plumes of smoke were visible in eastern Arizona. On 26 June 2016, hotspots and a plume of smoke drifting northward could be seen from the fire burning northeast of Bakersfield. By 27 June 2016, this fire was 40 percent contained, had burned roughly 183.7 square kilometers and destroyed 250 structures. Also at this time, the eastern Arizona wildfire was 75 percent contained and had scorched about 186 square kilometers. As of 28 June 2016, the fire in Los Padres National Forest was 93 percent contained and had affected approximately 20.3 square kilometers. Map products are available for online viewing and download in GeoTIFF or JPEG format on the NASA Earth Observatory website.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88267&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88278&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88261&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

***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.***

-----

*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](mailto: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.*