



**Name of Event: [Side Event] Integrated Use of Space Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Date of Event: May 12, 2011**

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**Organizer: SPIDER Global Thematic Partnership (UN-SPIDER, DLR, Asian Disaster Reduction Center, ESRI, and ISPRS)**

### **1) Outline**

Space-based and geo-spatial information has found its way into emergency response activities through international and regional mechanisms. However, such information is not yet fully used in the context of risk management. The SPIDER Global Thematic Partnership has been established by UN-SPIDER to bridge the gap between the space community and the disaster management community. This side event allowed the SPIDER Global Thematic Partnership to continue its awareness campaign to promote the use of such information by National Platforms for Disaster Reduction. Presentations by experts from ADRC, DLR, ISPRS, and Esri allowed participants to become aware of the most recent developments and examples of applications of this type of information and of ongoing efforts conducted by these institutions.

### **2) Key messages, outcomes, recommendations**

- There is a need for National Platforms for Disaster Reduction to become aware of opportunities that regional and international agencies are providing to facilitate access to and use of space-based and geo-spatial information.
- There is a need for decision makers and members of National Platforms for Disaster Reduction to become aware of the usefulness of geo-spatial and space-based information. Such information can contribute to the assessment of hazards and vulnerabilities, and is extremely useful to track changes in exposition and risk due to social, economic, political, and natural factors.
- Technical Partnerships and Platforms such as the SPIDER-Thematic Partnership could benefit from the support of UN-ISDR regarding how to improve synergies with National Platforms.

- There is a need to bridge the gap between those regional and international agencies which generate and provide information and local communities which are at risk. The aim should be to enhance the use of geo-spatial and space-based information generated by these agencies. National Platforms should become efficient intermediaries to bridge this gap.
- Private sector enterprises such as Esri are developing innovative tools and methods to process and to visualize information. These tools can assist National Platforms to visualize hidden issues such as vulnerability.

### **3) Conclusions**

The session allowed participants to become aware of recent examples concerning the application of space-based information to support emergency relief efforts in Japan and in other countries which have experienced disasters. In addition, the session allowed participants to see the wide range of applications of geo-spatial applications in a variety of sectors of development and in applications related to environmental management. In addition, the session allowed participants to become aware of on-going efforts conducted by regional and international agencies to promote the use of such information, including efforts by ISPRS, JBGIS and UN-SPIDER to provide proof regarding the cost/benefit ratio when using such type of information.