

Knowledge products for institutional development

Priority for Action 1: “Understanding disaster risk”
 Priority for Action 4: “Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response”



Application field: ESCAP, in collaboration with United Nations partners and regional institutions and based on country requests, regularly identifies gaps in institutional knowledge and practice in using space applications for disaster risk management. Where possible, ESCAP provides knowledge products to support institutional development and promote knowledge sharing.

Methodology: Through various workshops, ESCAP gathers good practices from the region and compiles comprehensive and concise handbooks, in close consultation with operational staff and decision-makers. These reference products are widely shared with practitioners to provide operational guidance.

Key results: Existing handbooks have been field tested in various settings with several countries already adopting them as standard practice and others expressing their desire to adopt similar practices in the future.

Innovative impact: These knowledge products are designed to increase capacity and skills as well as to promote institutional development for countries wishing to embrace innovative space-based information and their applications for disaster risk management.

ASEAN handbooks on space applications and disaster risk management

Application status: Completed and ongoing

Developed for the needs of the ASEAN sub-region in Asia and the Pacific, the handbooks can also be adapted for use in other regions.



The handbooks have been developed through expert working groups, in collaboration with United Nations partners including UNOOSA/UN-SPIDER, UNITAR-UNOSAT and OCHA. As well as extensive consultation with space agencies, national disaster management authorities and regional institutions, including GISTDA, LAPAN, ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management and Asian Institute of Technology.

The following three handbooks are presently available:

- Sharing space-based information: procedural guidelines for disaster emergency response in ASEAN countries
- Specific hazards: handbook on geospatial decision support in ASEAN countries
- Rapid assessment innovation: manual on resilient recovery for disasters in ASEAN countries

<http://www.unescap.org/our-work/ict-disaster-risk-reduction/space-based-data-disaster-risk-reduction>

syed.t.ahmed@un.org

UN ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand