



JUNE 2018 UPDATES

UN-SPIDER at a glance

UNISPACE+50 considers future of international space cooperation

UNISPACE+50, an event marking the fiftieth anniversary of the 1968 Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, took place in Vienna from 18 to 21 June. Consisting of a symposium and high-level segment of the 61st session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), UNISPACE+50 brought together government leaders, policy makers, space experts, and industry and civil society representatives to consider the future of international space cooperation.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

New booklet highlights UN-SPIDER advisory support activities

The United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) published a new booklet with examples of the programme's technical advisory support activities.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

EVIDENz project convenes stakeholder workshop in South Africa

Experts from the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), the Centre for Remote Sensing of Land Surfaces (ZFL)

of the University of Bonn and the Disaster Management Training and Education Centre for Africa (DiMTEC) at the University of the Free State (UFS) South Africa met in South Africa as part of their joint project "Earth-observation-based Information Products for Drought Risk on a National Basis"(EVIDENz). The workshop, which took place from 4 to 8 June, brought together stakeholders, key decision makers, operational and technical audiences from the rural development and agricultural sectors, space agencies, research and technology entities as well as members of the water, sanitation, economic and disaster management communities.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

UNOOSA and JAXA deploy first KiboCUBE satellite as part of capacity-building initiative

The United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) deployed the first cube satellite on 11 May 2018 as part of a joint cooperation programme called KiboCUBE. The KiboCUBE programme is a capacity-building initiative that enables educational or research institutions from developing countries to deploy cube satellites (CubeSats) from the Japanese Experiment Module (Kibo) of the International Space Station (ISS). It was designed to support United Nations Member States that do not have sufficient funding available for such activities.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

News from the community

Crowdsourced mobile application to track disasters tested for first time in Fiji

A crowdsourced mobile application utilizing satellite technology has been used for the first time during an emergency response drill in Fiji. The geoBingAn app allows

individuals to report disasters such as floods, landslides and tsunamis as well as their needs such as water, power, shelter and medicine during emergencies via their smartphone or by text message.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)



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Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Chilean Navy provides access to new tsunami flood charts

As part of the Tsunami Inundation Maps project (CITSU), the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Chilean Navy (SHOA) made available information related to the occurrence of tsunamis on the Chilean coast. SHOA, which is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the national tsunami warning system, established the CITSU project in 1977 to define probable flood levels for the main urban areas and ports along the coast in the case of approaching tsunamis.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

China launches new Earth observation satellites to monitor disasters

China launched its latest Earth observation satellite on 2 June. GAOFEN-6 will be used for disaster monitoring and agricultural research. Another satellite to monitor weather-related disasters, Fengyun-2H, was launched by China on 5 June.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

NASA builds open global landslide catalogue to improve disaster preparedness

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of the United States is currently building a worldwide database of landslide events. The Cooperative Open Online Landslide Repository (COOLR) includes NASA's Global Landslide Catalogue (GLC), which provides new insights into landslide hazards around the world.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

NASA and NOAA satellites monitor deadly Guatemala volcano eruption

Satellites from NASA and the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) monitored the eruption of Volcan de Fuego in Guatemala.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

Space-based lasers and supercomputer to aid the forecasting of extreme weathers

The European Space Agency (ESA) is launching a new satellite that will help scientists better understand extreme weather patterns and also contribute to disaster preparedness through more accurate forecasting of meteorological disasters.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

International Charter activated for Fuego Volcano in Guatemala

The International Charter Space and Major Disasters was activated for the eruption of Guatemala's Fuego volcano on 5 June.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

International Charter activated for forest fires in China

The International Charter Space and Major Disasters was activated for forest fires in China on 4 June.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)

International Charter activated for floods in Yemen

The International Charter Space and Major Disasters was activated on 2 June for flooding in Yemen.

[Read more on the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal.](#)



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The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) implements the decisions of the General Assembly and of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its two Subcommittees, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee. The Office is responsible for promoting international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, and assisting developing countries in using space science and technology. In its resolution 61/110 of 14 December 2006 the United Nations General Assembly agreed to establish the "United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response - UN-SPIDER" as a programme within UNOOSA. UN-SPIDER focuses on the need to ensure access to and use of spacebased solutions during all phases of the disaster management cycle.