

## **Bridging the science-practice gap: UN-SPIDER's approach to recommended practices for disaster risk management**

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**THEME:** Natural disasters monitoring, warning and response (DISA). Special session about international initiatives for EO-based Disaster management organized by Jens Danzeglocke and Francesco Gaetani.

**KEY WORDS:** Disaster risk management, Post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, Earth observation

### **ABSTRACT:**

Geodata and satellite imagery are decisive for successful disaster risk management. This is reflected in the current zero draft of the Post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction as of October 2014. It is expected that the new framework will focus on monitoring output and outcome indicators. These indicators quantify underlying drivers of risk (e.g. increasing hazard exposure, urban dynamics and environmental degradation), disaster losses, and others. This opens the door to increased operational use of Earth observation as a coherent data and information source. However, the existing gap between scientific outcomes and practical implementation often hinders the exploitation of the full potential of remote sensing for disaster risk management. Here we show the approach of the United Nations Platform for Space-based information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) to bridge the gap between science and practice by promoting "recommended practices" based on expertise from the space and disaster communities. The objective is to provide recommended practices according to defined context-specific user requirements and information needs for the full disaster management cycle as well as to defined quality criteria. While considering best scientific and technological practices, human and financial resource constraints are also taken into account. We will highlight this through pilot recommended practices, which were jointly developed with the UN-SPIDER network of Regional Support Offices and other partners. The practices are available via the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal ([www.un-spider.org](http://www.un-spider.org)) in an application-oriented and user-friendly interface. The authors would like to take the opportunity to invite scientists to contribute to the further development of recommended practices as well as to participate in the peer group of experts to support the review and validation process. The presented approach will contribute to an enhanced use of space-based information for disaster risk management and help reaching the goals of the Post-2015 framework.

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