Title	***Enhancing resilience to drought through the use of satellite imagery***
What?	To strengthen the capacity of agencies in charge of responding to drought in six countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. The countries to be supported are those where UN-SPIDER has already conducted technical advisory missions and which have the critical mass of professionals from a variety of government institutions to carry out the analysis and promote the application of the results.
How?	Implementation of systemized methods in 6 countries; recommended practices on image processing for drought vulnerability; trainings.
Why?	Increase capabilities of Member States and implement sustainable development agenda.
How much?	**USD 450,000 / 2 yrs**

UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs

Technical Cooperation

Concept note

OOSA/FRT/CN/2012-09

Title	***Enhancing Resilience to Drought through the use of satellite imagery***
Implementing Section/Programme	United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
Participating Government(s)	To be defined
Partners	Private and public sector stakeholders interested in the topic
Duration	Two years
Estimated budget	USD450,000
Proposed funding source	Voluntary contributions by Member States as well as by Partners

Summary

UN-SPIDER has been established by the General Assembly of the United Nations to promote the use of space-based information, in particular by developing countries, as a way to reduce the impacts of disasters triggered by natural phenomena which are unfortunately inhibiting sustainable development. One of the hazards that are inhibiting sustainable development is drought. In recent years, countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have been experiencing the impacts of droughts triggered by climate variability. The proposed project aims to build the capacities of government institutions in Member States of these two regions through the concerted effort of international and regional institutions.

The proposed project has already been addressed and endorsed by the network of UN-SPIDER Regional Support Offices. Such Offices will contribute to the project through the provision of case studies. In addition, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the International Research Centre on El Niño Phenomena (CIIFEN) have already agreed to participate in the project.

Objective

The project aims to strengthen the capacity of agencies in charge of responding to drought in six countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. The countries to be supported are those where UN-SPIDER has already conducted technical advisory missions and which have the critical mass of professionals from a variety of government institutions to carry out the analysis and promote the application of the results as a way to improve early warning capacities in case of drought and ways to cope with such droughts.

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Activities and Outputs

The activities foreseen include:

- The systematization methodologies already developed and explorations regarding their application in typical environments in the 6 members states where the project will be conducted (mountainous terrain, in some cases high-topographic relief; cloud coverage during several months of the year, etc);
- The elaboration of recommended practices (procedures) regarding how to process satellite imagery to identify vulnerability of crops and natural resources which can be affected by drought; and

- Training activities to build critical masses of professional in six Member States on the use of such recommended practices.

Outputs will include recommended practices case studies in the six countries documenting the analysis conducted, the conclusions obtained through such analysis, and strategies to promote the use of such conclusions in national efforts targeting preparedness and mitigation of the impacts of drought.

Topics to be addressed include:

- Satellite imagery;
- Imagery processing;
- Drought and its impacts on agriculture; and
- Strategies to promote the use of information generated using recommended practices.

Relevance

The project will fulfil the recommendations made by the General Assembly of the United Nations concerning the use of space-based information to reduce the impact of disasters of natural origin. In addition, it can be directly linked to Key Priority Area Number 2 of the Hyogo Framework for Action of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction of the United Nations (2005). Furthermore, it can be linked to global efforts targeting sustainable development (Rio Conferences) in the context of global environmental change.

Proposed Budget

Description	**Total**
Technical advisory services	250,000
Training activities targeting professionals from developing countries	150,000
Miscellaneous	50,000
Project Total	**USD450,000**