International Working Group on

Satellite-based Emergency Mapping (IWG-SEM)

Minutes of the teleconference held on Tuesday, 9 December 2014, 14 UTC

Participants

	First Name	Last Name	Organization
1	Stefan	Voigt	DLR
2	Hendrik	Zwenzner	DLR
3	Andrea	Ajmar	ITHACA
4	Fabio	Giulio Tonolo	ITHACA
5	Antje	Hecheltjen	UN-SPIDER
6	Peter	Zeil	EC-ENTER
7	Jan	Kucera	EC-JRC
8	Tobias	Schneiderhan	DLR

Main Outcomes

During the teleconference, the following points were discussed.

- **Short summary / actions / updates from past meeting**

    o DLR (chair) summarised shortly the activities and results of the IWG-SEM fall meeting held on December 25/26 via web conference and physically at DLR Oberpfaffenhofen/Munich

- **Updates and discussion on the Flood Section of EM Guidelines**

    o EC-ENTER presented the current status of the Flood Section document

    o The question arose if mapping examples should be included. This should be clarified within the group, since examples always set a certain standard. One possibility would be to include conceptual graphics that can exemplify important visual elements of a flood map without imposing/prescribing mapping styles/colours etc.

    o Important features of reference maps (key layers, elements, nomenclature of raster/vector layers) should be described in the general part of the guidelines (asset map/critical infrastructure/land cover etc.). Also in this case there could be conceptual graphics given, to exemplifying but not imposing/prescribing specific mapping styles. This will help to underpin important mapping elements. Flood specific reference mapping elements should well be described and elaborated within the section.

    o DLR and UN-SPIDER underline the importance of the definitions of terms/synonyms to further develop and sharpen a common understanding and language in the community. It was suggested to define terms in the text and copy them to the Glossary section in the general part of the document. For this purpose the Glossary of the IWG-SEM Guidelines will be extended with disaster (e.g. flood) specific terms.

    o Ithaca suggests to carefully defining which information is to be considered mandatory (as in the current version 02) for each flood map types, limiting the list to the datasets

strictly related to floods event (e.g. only reference/normal water bodies in reference maps?). This consideration is valid also for the "mandatory" vector datasets, which should be limited (at least in a rapid mapping context) to the ones directly extracted from the post-event imagery.

o Concerning the map readability issues, Ithaca suggest to stress the advantages offered by dynamic maps (as already discussed during the drafting of the general part of the guidelines) which may overcome typical limitations of statics maps

o Comment of EC: visualization of dynamic processes (e.g. from multi-temporal monitoring) is a challenge ; DLR states that colour / mapping features should be left to standards and/or cultural preferences of domain of each involved actor

- **AOB**
  o EC-ENTER plans to send out third draft of the flood section by 18 December 2014 to the mailing list and for USGS and WB to review the document from a user perspective. UN-SPIDER had volunteered to review the whole guideline document from a general perspective.

  o EC-JRC to provide the GeoRSS tag list for the technical/tool section of the IWG-SEM website. Work on aggregators for GeoRSS and additional KML metatag-definition on AIOs will follow in the near future.

  o UN-Spider offers to host the 2015 spring meeting of the group back-to-back with either the next COPUOS-STSC meeting in Vienna, during February 2015, or with the UN-Spider Conference in Bonn, during May 2015

  o Next Telcon is planned for Jan 13th, 2015

The conference call ended at 15:00 UTC