

# International Working Group on Satellite-based Emergency Mapping (IWG-SEM)



Minutes of the teleconference held on Tuesday, 19 May 2015, 14 UTC

## Participants

	First Name	Last Name	Organization
1	Stefan	Voigt	DLR
2	Francoise	Villette	EC/DG-GROW
3	Annett	Wania	EC/JRC
4	Chiara	Dorati	EC/JRC
5	Brittany	Card	HHI
6	Isaac	Baker	HHI
7	Blake	Girardot	HOT/OSM
8	Cristiano	Giovando	HOT/OSM
9	Fabio	Giulio Tonolo	ITHACA
10	John	Clark	Skybox
11	Gina	Kelly	UN-SPIDER
12	Antje	Hecheltjen	UN-SPIDER
13	Lorant	Czaran	UN-SPIDER
14	Brenda	Johnes	USGS

## Main Outcomes

During the teleconference, the following points were discussed.

- **Update on Nepal response from all participants:**
  - USGS: continues to upload data which is being made available through US-Government License to HDDC
  - DLR: Acquisition of TSX data for area of second earthquake
  - UN-SPIDER: continues to update the Nepal response page on the UN-SPIDER portal with new and current information on global satellite response and resources
  - ITHACA: cooperates with HOT-OSM to support the pre-processing (pan-sharpening, orthorectification, radiometric enhancement and TMS tiling) of very high resolution post-event optical satellite imagery aimed at publishing image Web Services to support the crowd sourced feature/damage extraction.
  - HHI: In dialog with PDC to support their mapping/feature extraction work
  - Skybox: provision of tiled imagery on google crisis map and in KMZ format:
    - Google Crisis Map for the 2015 Nepal Earthquake, which includes full resolution satellite imagery from DigitalGlobe, Airbus, and Skybox: <https://google.org/crisismap/2015-nepal-earthquake>

- The imagery is also available for use in Google Earth in a KML. You can download the Nepal Crisis Response KML here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BxEeOqjSE5uWlpaMIRnbnmNfaXc/view>
  - Google Earth Pro is now free. Download Earth Pro, use the free license key GEPFREE, and get access to features such as the ability to save and export high-res JPGs.
  - List from the OSM wiki of the images contained in the Google Crisis Response map: [https://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/Nepal\\_imagery\\_hosted\\_by\\_Google\\_Crisis\\_Response](https://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/Nepal_imagery_hosted_by_Google_Crisis_Response)
- HOTOSM: most of base mapping finished. Improvements are being done. Main task: identifying areas that have been damaged and identifying Camp. Focus on IDP, logistics problem and lakes, bridges and dams (inducing potential downstream problems in dams fail. There are new request for mapping from the Village Districts Committees,. Mapping of helipads is important. A lot of imagery is available resulting in hosting and handling challenges and problems with online tools to make them available => geotiffs => use existing services (e.g. Google crisis teams) Imagery available from DG, Airbus and Skybox. Cooperation with ITHACA processing imagery from DG or HDDS to support better access to full resolution ortho-imagery for crowd- sourced features extraction. Using a modified version of google crisis map to keep track of imagery (processed ones) plus footprints of unprocessed (link for web map)
  - EC/Copernicus EMS activities: Activation on 27/4 response service, followed by production of several map sets during the first 2 weeks (last production was on 13 May). 22 maps in two major set, based on the scale and type of information mapped (level of detail):
    - 1) Damage assessment over urban areas at 1:10000 scale (damage to individual buildings, road blocks; 8 maps/AOIs)
    - 2) Damage to settlements and infrastructure, road blocks, landslides in rural areas at 1:25000 and 1:50.000 scale (14 maps)

Two additional requests were received which were difficult to follow up directly:

- 1) ICIMOD on 12 May sent, based on an initial report from Nepal Home Ministry that Dolokha, Sindhupalchowk and Ramechhap districts have suffered damage and a major concern apart from infrastructure damage is on status of glacial lakes and landslide dammed lakes. ERCC decided that the request could not be followed up using Copernicus EMS because of the large area to cover with VHR but also as they seemed to be interested only in the imagery. (N.B. USGS has put the request into the tasking of VHR satellite imagery)
- 2) UNICEF 6 May: request on provision of damage estimates at the level of VDCs (Village Development Committee units) based on surface deformation from SAR data (we saw examples from Radarsat, Sentinel1A). Again, EMS did not follow this request directly as it was not part of the standard portfolio (i.e. not feasible in rapid mode) and would have required some “research” looking into how the information from the changes in surface can be translated into something useful for decision makers in the field. This could possibly be addressed in the Earthquake chapter and in future discussions of the IGW-SEM.

- **Update on physical meeting**
  - Meeting to be held at 28/29 May at UN-SPIDER Bonn. Remote Web access options are available.
  - Meeting will focus on collaborative mapping, crowdsourcing and global cooperation in this matter
  - Currently more than 20 registered participants for the meeting.
  
- **Next meeting / AOB**
  - Next Telcon is planned for June 16<sup>th</sup>

The conference call ended at 14:45 UTC