



# NOVEMBER 2016 UPDATES

## UN-SPIDER at a glance

### UN-SPIDER annual Bonn International Expert Meeting

On 1st and 2nd December 2016 the UN-SPIDER programme carried out the International Expert Meeting on the Global Partnership on Space Technology Applications for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP-STAR) in Bonn, Germany. The International Expert Meeting was used to outline the aims of the partnership as a way to contribute to the implementation of the Sendai framework especially considering activities related to Earth observation, geospatial information, space technology applications, and international networks such as the International Network on Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (IN-MHEWS).

For more information please visit:

<http://www.un-spider.org/news-and-events/news/un-spider-carries-out-its-annual-bonn-international-expert-meeting>

### UNOOSA participated in the Earth Info Day of COP22

The “Earth Info Day” organized by UNFCCC was conducted on 8 November 2016 during COP22 as part of the SBSTA activities. It was an opportunity to make participants attending the events aware of the strengths of Earth observation technologies to track different factors like the sea-level rise around the world, polar ice caps melting, greenhouse concentration changes in the atmosphere and others.

For more details please click here:

<http://www.un-spider.org/news-and-events/news/unoosa-participates-earth-info-day-cop-22>

### UNOOSA present at COP 22

UNOOSA participated in different events at the Conference of Parties to the Climate Change Convention (CoP) held in Marrakesh between 7 to 18 November 2016.

UNOOSA made delegations and observers aware of its efforts to promote the use of space applications in efforts related to adaptation and loss and damage, which are included in the Paris agreement.

<http://www.un-spider.org/news-and-events/news/unoosa-cop-22>

### EVIDENz project Workshop in South Africa

From 2 to 3 November 2016 the partners of the EVIDENz project conducted the workshop “Earth observation-based information products for drought risk on a national basis”. The workshop aimed to promote a discussion about the contribution of the EVIDENz project to drought monitoring as this is the major natural hazard affecting the country and leaving economical and social losses every year.

For additional information please visit:

<http://www.un-spider.org/news-and-events/news/evidenz-project-workshop-south-africa>



## News from the Community

### **International Charter activated for heavy rains in Panama, fires in Israel and floods in Costa Rica**

The International Charter Space and Major disasters was activated several times on November 2016. It was activated on 21 November 2016 in Panama at the request of USGS; on 24 November in Israel; and on 30 November 2016 in Costa Rica at the request of USGS on behalf of National Emergency committee Costa Rica. UN-SPIDER contributed with Costa Rica to activate the charter and gave technical permanent support to the country.

For additional information please visit:

<https://www.disasterscharter.org/web/guest/activation/s/charter-activations>

### **IGAC training on satellite information for drought early warning systems**

The Agustín Codazzi Geographic Institute -IGAC, through its Center for Research and Development of Geographic Information (CIAF), conducted a workshop on 27 October 2016 on the use of satellite information in early warning systems to deal with drought phenomena. This workshop included the generation of drought maps based on the application of spectral indexes such as: the Vegetation Condition Index (VCI) and the Standard Vegetation Index (SVI), using the R software.

<http://www.un-spider.org/news-and-events/news/igac-conducts-training-course-satellite-information-drought-early-warning>

