

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

Washington DC, 10-11 October 2013

Hosted by USGS at:  
Department of Interior  
1849 C St, NW - Washington, DC - US

**Day 1**  
**Thursday, 10.10.2013**  
(IWGS-SEM members only)

- 07:30 -07:45 Arrival of participants and remote connections
- 07:45 -08:00 Welcome address
- 08:00 -08:15 Introduction, Logistics, Adoption of the meeting agenda and attendees introduction
- 08:15 -09:00 **IWG-SEM updating: new members, website**  
Updating on the new members that recently joined IWG-SEM  
Discussion on the web-site hosting and content
- 09:00 -10:30 **Emergency Mapping Guidelines**  
IWG-SEM members prepared a first draft of Emergency Mapping Guidelines, aimed to help to support an effective exchange and harmonization of emergency mapping efforts leading to improved possibilities for cooperation amongst involved Emergency Mapping Organizations. The current draft contain several comments that need to be addressed and integrated in the text before the final proof-reading and the final reading. The specific aspects that will be discussed during the meeting, with the goal to gather all the inputs required to finalized the guidelines, are:
- Analysis of the latest version and discussion on potential open issues raised in the comments
  - Guidelines audience: any possible SEM organization and not only IWG-SEM members
  - Quality assurance section: focus on the potential IWG-SEM role and its position with reference to the concept of the offline "preparation" process
  - Flood-related section: analysis and discussion on the current section structure, taking into account possible cooperation scenarios during large flood events
- 10:30 -10:45 *Coffee Break*
- 10:45 -12:30 Emergency Mapping Guidelines - Continuation
- 12:30 -13:30 *Lunch break*
- 13:30 -15:15 Emergency Mapping Guidelines - Continuation
- 15:15 -15:30 *Coffee Break*
- 15:30-16:30 **GeoRSS demo session**  
GeoRSS feeds have been proposed as an operational cooperation tool, with the goal to share geospatial information related to ongoing and/or past emergency mapping activations. The discussion will focus on the information content (and a possible central/common web site platform) with the goal to achieve a consensus on a standard structure for an EMS geoRSS feed.
- Demo on the GeoRSS feed in use by EC-JRC – Jan Kucera
- 16:30 Closure of Day 1
- 19:30 *No host group dinner*

**Day 2**  
**Friday, 11.10.2013**

(open to US based Emergency Mapping institutions)

- 07:45 - 08:00 Arrival of participants and remote connections
- 08:00 - 08:30 Brief summary of Day 1 and attendees introduction
- 08:30 - 09:00 Short introduction on IWG-SEM: vision, mission, current activities
- 09:00 - 10:00 **Presentation of the Emergency Mapping activities carried out by US-based organizations.**  
One of the reasons it was decided to organize the meeting in a different continent was to broaden the participation to the IWG-SEM. To this purpose USGS kindly offered to arrange presentations from other US-based agencies dealing with satellite emergency mapping.
- FEMA – Glen Russell
  - NASA/CEOS – Stuart Frye
  - Veterans Administration – Michael Villeneuve
  - Department of Agriculture - Glenn Bethel
  - Pacific Disaster Center - Nicholas Behnken
- Discussion on potential synergies with a focus on IWG-SEM current activities (IWG-SEM mapping guidelines and GeoRSS)
- 10:00 - 10:15 *Coffee Break*
- 10:15 - 11:15 Continued presentations
- 11:15 -12:30 **Emergency Mapping Guidelines – Continuation**  
Re-scheduling of the step forward (proof-reading and final reading)
- 12:30 - 14:00 *Lunch break*
- 14:00 - 15:30 **Wrap-up and way forward**  
A short summary of the major points discussed and agreed during the meeting will be provided. The IWG-SEM members will also define the priorities for the next 6 months period, as well as start defining potential venues for the next meeting to be held approximately in April 2014. AOB
- 16:00 Closure of Day 2 and closure of the meeting