



Training Seminar in Burkina Faso

Organized by the
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

With the support of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA)
and the Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS)

26 – 30 September 2011, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

The West and Central African region is particularly vulnerable to an increasing number of natural disasters, mainly ranging between the extremes of droughts and floods. In order to strengthen the coping capacities to tackle these hazards, the Government of Burkina Faso with the support of OOSA and RECTAS will host a regional training seminar focusing on space-based applications for flood risk management and emergency response.

Since 2008, the UN-SPIDER programme has provided expert support and conducted Technical Advisory Missions (TAMs) to Burkina Faso, Togo, Cameroon and Nigeria, upon request of the respective governments, to assess the access to and use of space-based information for disaster management and emergency response. As a follow-up support to the countries already benefiting from UN-SPIDER assistance in the region, the above mentioned training seminar is being organized.

Objectives

The Seminar will be divided into a one-day high-level awareness-raising segment and a specialized training seminar for experts. Its main objectives are to promote the use of space-based information and to raise decision-makers' awareness of the necessity to proceed with its institutionalization as well as to provide a technical training to a group of experts from concerned countries.

Among others, the four-day training session will cover topics such as principles of remote sensing, spatial data acquisition, image processing, spatial data analysis and case studies displaying the utilization of those techniques in the frame of risk management and emergency response. The training will include theoretical lectures and practical hands-on exercises on spatial data applications. The course will be conducted by RECTAS in French language.

Outcomes

With regard to access and use of space-based information for disaster risk management and emergency response in the region, expected outcomes of the Training Seminar are:

- Further awareness-raising and institutionalization of space-based information for disaster risk reduction and emergency response
- Technical training on flood risk management and emergency response provided to a group of experts representing government institutions in the region
- Improved collaboration and coordination among national and regional agencies in West and Central Africa

Expected Participants

Decision-makers and high-level stakeholders from national, regional and international institutions for the awareness-raising segment, as well as 20 experts in the field of disaster risk management and emergency response from the West and Central African region for the specialized training seminar.

Sponsors and partners

If your organization would like to cooperate in the training seminar or the awareness-raising segment or consider contributing to follow-up activities in the region of West and Central Africa, we would be pleased to forward additional information and discuss further how to become involved.

Contact

For specific contributions to the proposed seminar topics or for any other queries, please contact Mr. Lorant Czarant, Telephone: +49 228 815 0682, E-Mail: Lorant.Czarant@UNOOSA.org.