



## How satellites can help to save lives

### Improving the Use of Information from Earth Observation Satellites for Humanitarian Aid and Development Cooperation

#### Summary

The impacts of climate change, scarcity of natural resources and increasing volatile conflicts represent enormous challenges for governmental and non-governmental organizations. Recent Austrian research initiatives have shown that information based on data from earth observation satellites supports humanitarian aid organizations and development cooperation in their effort to improve the efficiency of their activities related to the entire disaster/crisis management cycle from preparedness to response and risk reduction. Current initiatives cover a wide range of applications such as groundwater exploration, population/migration monitoring and drought/food security monitoring. In order to support the active knowledge transfer between researchers, policy-makers and end-users this interactive workshop concentrates on linking actual user requirements to technological solutions. In the framework of international activities, such as the World Humanitarian Summit (23-24 May 2016, Istanbul), this workshop also serves as the basis for an Austrian platform that supports the sharing of existing tools as well as the development of more user-friendly approaches.

**Who should participate:** NGOs (humanitarian aid and development cooperation), governmental organizations, policy-makers (Austrian ministries, EU, UN), researchers and students, space agencies and enterprises

**Why you should participate:** You might want to learn more about existing technologies, successful applications and access to services. You might want to apply or adapt an existing tool for your purposes, get to know people who help to develop new useful tools, propose and discuss your own ideas, look for partners for a research project, extend your network or simply broaden your mind.

**When:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 (full day)

**Where:** Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), Sensengasse 1, A-1090 Vienna

#### Topics:

- Added-value of satellite technologies
- Practical examples: from user requirements to solutions
- International activities (United Nations, European Commission, European Space Agency)
- Legal background regarding the use of satellite data in sensitive regions (e.g. conflict zones)
- The way forward: present and discuss your ideas with regard to initiating collaborative research, continuous knowledge transfer, exploitation of existing and new scientific results for operational decision-making, etc.

**Costs and Workshop Language:** There are no workshop fees. The workshop language is English.

**Registration:** <https://www.ffg.at/veranstaltungen/ffg-workshop-humanitarian-aid>

#### Organization Team:

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## DRAFT AGENDA

- 09:00**            **Welcome**
- 09:15**            **Keynote: Challenges in Humanitarian Aid / Objectives of the Workshop**  
*M. Enenkel, TU Vienna/Columbia University*
- 09:30**            **International Programmes and Legal Aspects**
- ESA programmes for emergency response and development aid  
*P. Bally, ESA*
- The Copernicus Programme and its services for humanitarian aid  
*P. Zeil, European Commission*
- UN-SPIDER and other relevant UN-activities*  
*L. St.-Pierre, UNOOSA*
- Legal aspects and data policy*  
*A. Soucek, ESA*
- Moderator: A. Papp, SOS Children's Villages International*
- 11:10**            **Coffee Break**
- 11:30**            **Austrian Capacities / R&D Projects**
- EO4HumEn - EO-based services to support humanitarian operations: monitoring population and natural resources in refugee/IDP camps  
*P. Füreder, Z\_GIS*
- SATIDA – Satellite Technologies for Improved Drought Risk Assessment  
*M. Enenkel, TU Vienna/Columbia University*
- 12:30**            **Lunch Break**
- 13:30**            **Moderated Discussion „How to Bridge the Gap between Research and Applications“**
- From practical problems to efficient communication, funding, technical developments and user-friendly solutions
- Moderator: P. Zeil, European Commission*
- Keynotes: Isaac Kwamy, NetHope*  
*Idriss Ait-Bouziad, MSF*
- 15:00**            **Open Space for Discussions and Exchange between NGOs and Solution Providers to establish the first Contact and to initiate potential Collaboration**