# 2 Canniversary GDACS Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System



7 hazards

### 20 years of operations

- ~20 emergencies per year opened in VOSOCC
- ~40 SMCS events per year
- +200 simulation exercises per year
- +10.000 analytical products (maps, reports, dashboards)
- **33000** users registered to receive email/sms alerts
- +120.000 disaster events analysed

Established in 2004 by the United Nations (OCHA/UNITAR-UNOSAT) and the European Commission (JRC/ECHO), the Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS) leverages the collaborative efforts of disaster managers and information systems globally.

For the past two decades, its primary aim has been to support situational awareness and decision-making before and during major disasters. GDACS delivers real-time warnings and coordination tools, facilitating rapid impact estimations in the early stages of disasters requiring humanitarian assistance.





Before an imminent major event and during its immediate aftermath, GDACS provides a space where humanitarian actors can collect and analyse information simultaneously to plan their anticipatory actions or early response.

Through its three components, GDACS facilitates access to information and its exchange among different actors. The

system enhances coordination efforts, helps minimise redundancies, and streamlines decision-making.

GDACS data and impact estimations are openly accessible and easily integrated into other web portals or websites through APIs, RSS feeds, or other standard formats.

#### **Disaster Awareness**

- Global coverage for seven types of hazards
- Issued and disseminated promptly after the rapid/sudden-onset significant events (in some cases within minutes)
- (Semi) automatic impact estimates and risk severity analysis

## Satellite Mapping and Coordination System (SMCS)

- A platform for remote sensing professionals to share and discuss satellite mapping products for disaster hit areas
- Facilitates an understanding of "Who is mapping what, and where?"
- Standard information products for timely and accurate maps and satellite imagery

## Virtual On-Site Operations Coordination Centre (VOSOCC)

- Coordination through privileged channel of communication for institutional actors and international responders
- Supervised 24/7 by a dedicated team.
- Community building and skill sharing through disaster simulation exercises



Public users can register to GDACS, set up threshold-based alerts, and choose the preferred communication channel (e-mail, SMS) to receive updates. They can also define regional areas of interest of interest, and the language of the alert for the SMSs (English, French, Spanish, and Italian).

GDACS rapid impact estimations are science-based, emphasizing globally homogenous coverage and authoritative information sources.







