Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System

GDACS

www.gdacs.org
Purpose of GDACS

- Reliable alert notification after sudden-onset disasters
- Facilitated information exchange among stakeholders to coordinate the disaster response operations (relief phase)
**What is GDACS**

- **Network**
  - Disaster information services (Currently: Reliefweb, Virtual OSOCC, EC/ASGARD, UNOSAT, HEWS)
  - Disaster managers in disaster-prone and responding countries/organisations

- **Standards**
  - Protocols for data exchange among systems
  - Procedures for information exchange among stakeholders
  - GLIDE

- **Web-platform:**
  - Alert notification after sudden-onset disasters
  - Information exchange and coordination
Scope

- Sudden-onset disasters
  - Natural
  - Technological
  - Environmental
  - (No complex emergencies)
Stakeholders

- Affected countries
- Donor countries and organisations
- Scientific institutions
GDACS Homepage at www.gdacs.com

The Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System provides near real-time alerts about natural disasters around the world and tools to facilitate response coordination, including news, maps and VSOCs.

**Current Disaster Events**

Events in this list are picked up from multiple sources and automatically analyzed by a computer program to determine the likelihood of humanitarian intervention. News is collected automatically from over 800 on-line sources.

**Earthquakes** Orange alerts or M>5 in the last 4 days | more events...  
Note: based on preliminary magnitude; most recent seismic parameters can be different
Last updated: 7 min ago

**Floods** Bulletins provides by Dartmouth Flood Observatory based on media reports | more events...
Last updated: 17 hours ago

- **Flood 179 in Somalia**
  DFO—2006-08-24 to 2006-09-12

- **Flood 178 in Nepal**
  DFO—2006-08-26 to 2006-09-13

- **Flood 175 in Thailand**
  DFO—2006-08-20 to 2006-09-12

- **Flood 174 in Sudan and Ethiopia**
  DFO—2006-08-13 to 2006-09-13

- **Flood 173 in Cambodia and Vietnam**
  DFO—2006-08-10 to 2006-09-12

- **Flood 171 in Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali and Nigeria**

**Legend**

Based on the location and magnitude of the disasters and the local population and their vulnerability, disasters are classified in three cases:

1. **Red**
2. **Orange**
3. **Green**

Click on any icon to get report on the event. To see the map, you must have installed version 8 of the flash player. The events included in the map above are less than 4 days old.
Virtual OSOCC

- Web based information management
- Restricted access
- Real-time coordination of response

http://ocha.unog.ch/virtualosoccc
Virtual OSOCC Disaster Overview

- Subscription to SMS and e-mail notifications
- New disaster alerts entered by users
- Ongoing disaster discussions
- Automatic alerts and loss-estimations
- SMS and e-mail subscription to automatic alerts
Virtual OSOCC Maps & Satellite Images

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Automatic display of available satellite images
- On-line request for customised satellite images or maps
Virtual OSOCC Disaster Overview

6.2M Earthquake in Yogyakarta, Indonesia (May 2006)

Summary created by moderator

Access to the discussion

- More than 5,000 fatalities according to government figures
- Over 20,000 injured and over 200,000 homeless according to the Government
- Hospitals overcrowded, people have no place to go home to
- Bantul and Klaten most badly hit
- Airport opened in Yogyakarta for Humanitarian flights
- Solo airport overused: congesting road to Yogyakarta.
- International assistance has not been requested by government
- UNDAC team has set up UN Office/ OSOCC in Bantul, humanitarian hub in Klaten, reception centre in Yogyakarta

Coordination

OCHA has established a Coordination Cell in the office of the Governor led by Puji Pujiiono (OCHA Regional Disaster Response Advisor). His mobile phone number is + 62 8111 53489. Please contact him if you are arriving on site.

The UN Office in the Bupatil compound in Bantul is now operational.
## Virtual OSOCC Relief Teams

### Overview of international relief teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Relief Team</th>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Arrival</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Mission completed</td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>29-May-2006 16:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Mission completed</td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>28-May-2006 00:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Mission completed</td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>31-May-2006 17:35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water/Sanitation</td>
<td>Mission completed</td>
<td>MOFA - Emergency office</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>31-May-2006 02:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water/Sanitation</td>
<td>Mission completed</td>
<td>THW German Agency for Technical Relief</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>29-May-2006 17:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td>Deployed</td>
<td>Australian Aid International</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>28-May-2006 14:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Deployed</td>
<td>SDC Humanitarian Aid Team</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>28-May-2006 00:00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Deployed</td>
<td>Japan Disaster Relief Team (JDR)</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>28-May-2006 20:20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Deployed</td>
<td>USAID/OFDA</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>27-May-2006 00:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Users can add new teams, as required
- Teams can update their record
Virtual OSOCC Discussion

Discussion overview

New comments by users

User comments & file attachments

Option to send comment by SMS or e-mail
Challenges Ahead

• Establishment of GDACS Focal Points
  – Raise awareness
  – Provide information through Virtual OSOCC
  – Assist in defining standards

• Revision of reporting standards
  – Quality and quantity of priority needs
  – Pledged and deployed resources
  – Timeliness

• On-line simulation exercises
  – Practice information exchange procedures
  – National and international disaster managers
  – From disaster event until arrival of international assistance
Thank you