Interagency Meeting on Outer Space
Activities
27th Session

Use of Space Technology by Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

17 - 19 January 2007
Vienna

Satellite Imagery

- UNOSAT image maps distributed through ReliefWeb, Field Offices and Humanitarian Information Centers, when available.

- Vector data on flooding extent etc. extracted from Radar imagery is used in ReliefWeb-produced situation maps as well as by Field Offices.

- ReliefWeb Map Centre cooperation with iCubed for provision of rapid SPOT imagery access through online map services during Lebanon crisis

- Supported using available imagery from Google Earth (georeferenced in-house) for quick unpaved roads detection, verification of small settlements and distribution of KML to depict areas of UXO in Lebanon, on request by UNIFIL, UNMAS and others in the field.

Cooperative Activities

- Cooperation started with DPKO on satellite imagery catalogue and data server for UNHQ (DataDoors)

- Cooperation planned with DPKO for setting up a Google Earth Enterprise Service at UNHQ and training of HQ and field staff with the view of extending such services to more field offices

- Participation of Map Centre Manager in CEOS/WGISS meetings, as the User Vice Chair and Global Datasets Task Team leader, championing for a global 30m. DEM product to be derived from space data

- OCHA signed a Cooperative Framework Agreement with UNOSAT to advance satellite imagery-based rapid mapping applications for disaster response coordination

- OCHA will co-chair UNGIWG in 2007-8 with UNHCR

End-User Support for Disaster Response

- OCHA has been setting up VSat facilities to assist field operations

- OCHA has also began to roll out what it calls Personal ICT kits to assist staff who are deployed to the field to respond to emergencies. The kit includes a satellite communication terminal, a satellite phone and a GNSS receiver