

SAFER

Services and Applications For Emergency Response

THE RIGHT KNOWLEDGE CAN SAVE LIVES

Every year in the world, fires, floods, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, landslides and other humanitarian crises claim the lives of thousands of citizens. With climate change, such emergencies may increase in frequency. The project SAFER is implementing and validating a preoperational version of the **GMES/Kopernikus Emergency Response Core Service (ERCS)**, reinforcing the European capacity to respond to such disasters.

European Civil Protection Authorities as well as humanitarian relief organizations such as United Nations agencies or NGOs need **fast and accurate information** when responding to an emergency situation. Such information often takes the form of detailed maps of an area that is affected by an emergency.

Implementing a pre-operational version of the GMES/Kopernikus Emergency Response Core Service, SAFER's main goal is to provide a **rapid mapping capacity** in response to disastrous events. Such information is based on satellite images of the affected area and on reference maps, which SAFER prepares in advance for areas faced with an elevated risk of emergencies. Such risk areas may be mountain valleys with a history of flooding or landslides, dry lands vulnerable to forest fires or the neighbourhood of a volcano.

From 2008, SAFER delivers services at full scale in response to real events as well as during specific exercises. **The project's main performance criterion is the**

response time: with SAFER, reference mapping will be made available to users within just six hours after an emergency situation arises. **Assessment maps of the disaster area will be available within 24 hours.**

Moreover, SAFER aims at extending the use of its products to before the crisis situation (for early warning) and after the crisis situation (for reconstruction). The project seeks to further develop the foundation for the future GMES/Kopernikus Emergency Service through provision of specific thematic products, in particular in the areas of meteorological and geophysical risks.

The SAFER consortium includes European users such as civil protection authorities as well as non-European users such as UN agencies and is built around a core team of European industry and research institutes that have gained experience in this area within the framework of the Sixth Framework Programme for Research or ESA programs. A wide network of scientific partners and service providers extend SAFER's European dimension, in particular to the new EU Member States.



DAVID HELLO
IS PROJECT COORDINATOR

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What do you want to achieve with this project?

SAFER aims at implementing and validating preoperational versions of the Emergency Response Core Service. In first priority we want to validate an information service focussing on rapid mapping during the response phase and then to enrich this service with a wider set of thematic products.

Why is this GMES/Kopernikus service important for Europe?

The global climate change increases the need for a better European emergency response capacity. SAFER will guarantee in the long term that Europe can provide adequate information capabilities to support early warning, relief operations and reconstruction activities.

How does your work benefit European citizens?

Natural and man-made disasters take a very high toll in economic and human terms. In the long term, ERCS will provide tangible benefits for all citizens, in Europe and worldwide, in terms of a better quality of life, better health, and increased safety.



Aerial view of fire.
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LIST OF PARTNERS

- Infoterra France, France
- Infoterra Limited (ITUK), United Kingdom
- Infoterra GmbH (ITD), Germany
- Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt (DLR), Germany
- Telespazio S.p.A. (TPZ), Italy
- Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES), France
- Ministère de l'intérieur, de l'outre-mer et des collectivités territoriales, France
- Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri – Dipartimento della Protezione Civile (DPC), Italy
- European Union Satellite Centre (EUSC)
- Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV), Italy
- INSA Ingeniería y Servicios Aeroespaciales S.A., Spain
- Commission of the European Communities - Directorate General Joint Research Centre (JRC)
- Météo-France (MF-CNRM), France
- Università degli Studi di Firenze (UNIFI), Italy
- ALTAMIRA INFORMATION SL, Spain
- Bundesamt für Bevölkerungsschutz und Katastrophenhilfe, Germany
- Critical Software S.A., Portugal
- Elsig Datamat spa., Italy
- European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), United Kingdom
- EDISOFT S. A., Portugal
- Ecole normale supérieure (ENS), France
- Centro Europeo di Formazione e Ricerca in Ingegneria Sismica, Italy
- Accademia Europea per la ricerca applicata ed il perfezionamento professionale – Bolzano (EUREC), Italy
- Eurosense-Belfotop NV, Belgium
- EUROSENSE ROMANIA SRL, Romania
- GAMMA Remote Sensing and Consulting AG (GAMMA), Switzerland
- GeoID bvba, Belgium
- geomer GmbH, Germany
- GISAT s.r.o., Czech Republic
- GMV Aerospace and Defence S.A., Spain
- Institute of Geodynamics of the Romanian Academy (IGAR), Romania
- Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), Italy
- INDRA Espacio SA, Spain
- JOANNEUM RESEARCH Forschungsgesellschaft mbH, Austria
- Keyobs S.A., Belgium
- Universidad de Valladolid (LATUV), Spain
- MapAction, United Kingdom
- The National Land Survey of Sweden (METRIA), Sweden
- Norsk institutt for luftforskning (NILU), Norway
- Institute for Nuclear Research and Nuclear Energy, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (INRNE), Bulgaria
- National Observatory of Athens, Greece
- Planetek Hellas (PKH), Greece
- Universität Salzburg, Austria
- Remote Sensing Application Center (ReSAC), Bulgaria
- Romanian Space Agency (ROSA), Romania
- Skysoft Portugal, Software e Tecnologias de Informação S.A., Portugal
- Sogreah Consultants SAS, France
- Tele-Rilevamento Europa T.R.E. s.r.l., Italy
- Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, Spain
- Université Louis Pasteur (ULP), France
- Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, Slovakia
- United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNOSAT)
- Sas Magellium, France
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

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PROJECT INFORMATION

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