

This service summarizes current satellite mapping activities of interest to GDACS stakeholders. It is issued weekly and based on contributions from map-producing entities and GDACS partners.

Satellite mapping overview

As of 27 May 2019

Asia

Dust Storm in Hokkaido, Japan

On 22 May 2019, NASA released Terra (MODIS) satellite image acquired on 20 May 2019 illustrated an unusual plume of dust streaming from farmland near Shari and Kiyosato in northern Hokkaido, Japan where the dust typically comes from vast deserts in Central Asia and arrives on westerly winds.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link : <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/145091/dust-storm-in-hokkaido>

North America

Wildfires Threaten Northern Alberta, Canada

The Chuckegg Creek wildfire started on 12 May 2019, and mostly burned northwest and away from populated areas. By 19 May 2019, the fire had charred at least 25,000 hectares (60,000 acres), according to statistics from provincial officials at Alberta Wildfire. On 20 May 2019, the fire took a turn and advanced within 5 kilometres of High Level (population 3,000). The Chuckegg Creek wildfire was one of six burning out of control in northern and central Alberta Province.

On 22 May 2019, NASA released Suomi NPP (VIIRS) satellite image of northern Alberta acquired 19 May 2019. Beyond the blaze near High Level, other wildfires burned to the south in the Slave Lake Forest Area and near Grande Prairie were detected in the satellite image.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link : <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/145091/dust-storm-in-hokkaido>

South America

Flood in Paraguay - GDACS ID : FL 1000233

Heavy rainfall across Paraguay had resulted in rising water levels, with swollen rivers bursting their banks. The most affected department was Distrito Capital, with the northern communities of Presidente Hayes and Alto Paraguay also badly impacted.

International Charter published 6 flood maps of Distrito Capital (ID 607) produced by Argentina Space Agency which water mask obtained from TERRASAR-X and CBERS-4 satellite image acquired on 18 May 2019, RADARSAT-2 and KOMPSAT-5 satellite image acquired on 20 May 2019 and KOMPSAT-5 satellite image acquired on 22 May 2019.

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Source: The International Charter Space and Major Disasters

Link : <https://disasterscharter.org/web/guest/activations/-/article/flood-in-paraguay-activation-609->

Landslide in Bolivia - Activation ID: 607

A landslide occurred in Bolivia's capital city of La Paz on 30 April 2019, destroyed 17 homes. The landslide occurred in a hilly suburb on the outskirts of La Paz, where houses were built with fragile foundations. Some houses were totally destroyed and many more have been damaged.

The International Space Charter published damage assessment maps produced by SINAGER-SAT using Pleiades satellite image acquired on 1 May 2019. The map illustrated the affected area of about 69,071 m² where many houses were destroyed.

Source: The International Charter Space and Major Disasters

Link : <https://disasterscharter.org/web/guest/activations/-/article/landslide-in-bolivia-plurinational-state-of-activation-607->