

Regional Project Managers for the Charter are developed through training courses, which typically last between 3 and 5 days and are held in a central location for participants. These courses have resulted in increased activations and broader use of Charter data and information by local emergency management authorities.

Project Managers are nominated according to either their regional affiliation or their specific areas of expertise. A normal activation takes 2 to 3 weeks to complete, with all related expenses the responsibility of the PM's home agency.

1. Contextual and Job Knowledge Requirements for Project Managers
 - a. Strong English communications skills
 - b. Experience in the following areas:
 - Remote-sensing satellites and their supporting ground systems
 - Data delivery networks
 - Remote-sensing data application, particularly in disaster management
 - Civil Protection agencies, their mandates and operations
 - Remote-sensing data value adding
 - Project management for disaster response

Arizona wildfire, June 26, 2010.

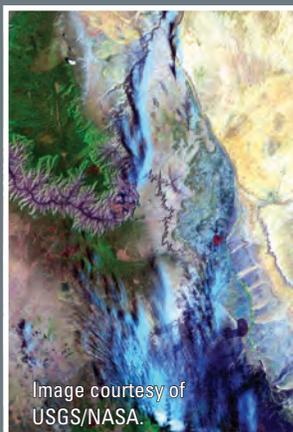


Image courtesy of USGS/NASA.

Yellowstone wildfires, June 1988.

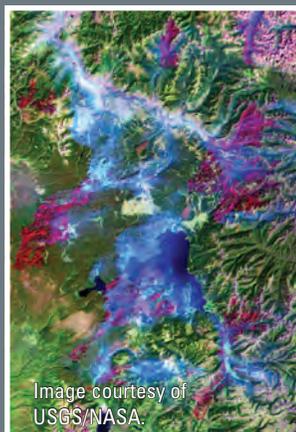


Image courtesy of USGS/NASA.

Participation Requirements

Participants should hold managerial or technical positions at governmental agencies, international, national, and regional institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), or private industry with programs for disaster management/emergency response support or development of related space technology capabilities and solutions.

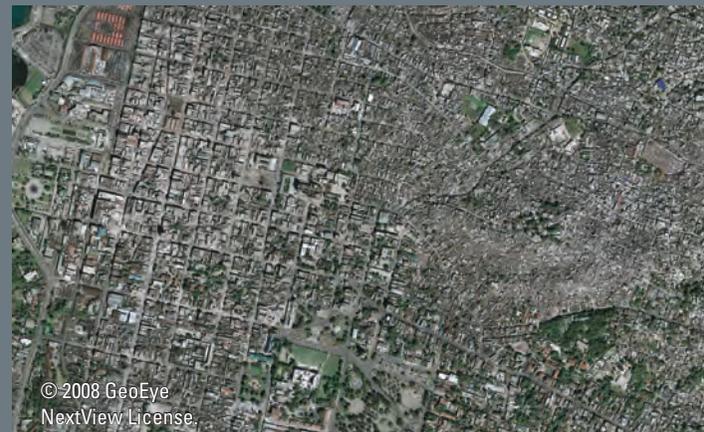
Language of Workshops

The working language of all planned activities is English.

Financial Support

Within the limited financial resources available, a number of selected international participants from developing countries may be offered financial support to attend a Workshop. Financial support may be provided by international agencies, host countries, or cooperating organizations. Limited options for financial support will be explained as specific courses are announced. This financial support will defray the cost of travel (a round trip ticket—most economic fare—between the airport of international departure in their home country and the workshop) or the room and board expenses for the duration of the event.

Earthquake damage in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, January 12, 2010.



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Life and Health Insurance

Life/major health insurance for each of the selected participants **is the responsibility of the candidate or his/her institution or government.** The Charter consortium and the USGS will not assume any responsibility for life and major health insurance, nor for expenses related to medical treatment or accidental events.

Point of Contact

For information regarding the agenda and general arrangements, including meeting venue, hotel accommodation, transportation to and from the airport and other logistical details, please contact:

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+1-605-594-6503
bkjones@usgs.gov

For further information on the Charter, please check the following Web site:
<http://www.disasterscharter.org>

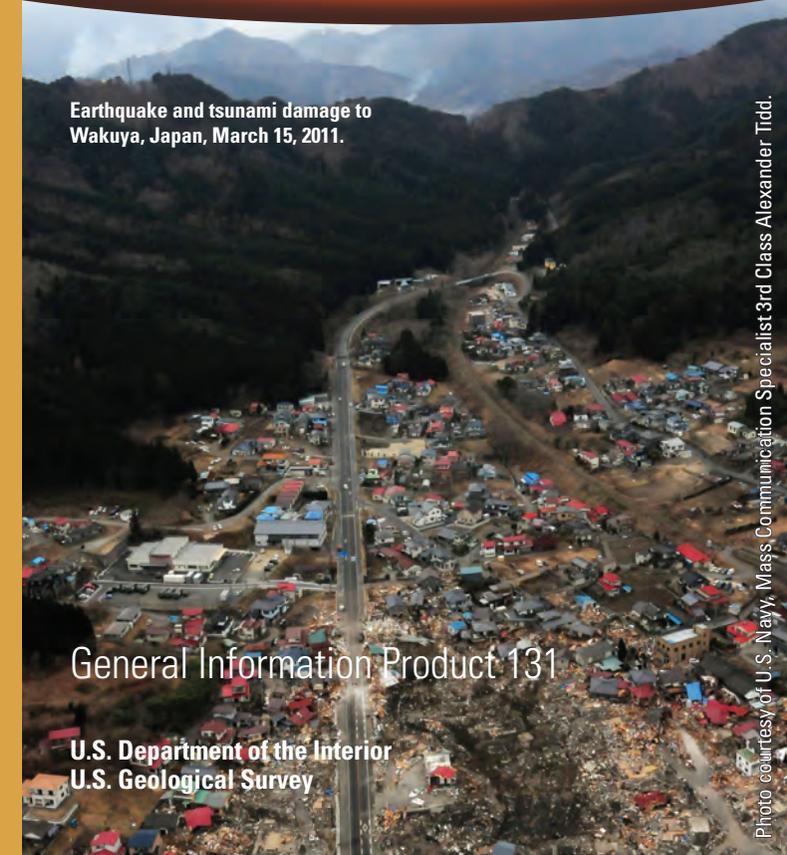


The International Charter for Space and Major Disasters—Project Manager Training

An announcement by the U.S. Geological Survey



Earthquake and tsunami damage to Wakuya, Japan, March 15, 2011.



General Information Product 131

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey



Damage in the New Orleans, Louisiana, area caused by Hurricane Katrina, August 30, 2005.

Photo courtesy of Jocelyn Augustino, FEMA

The International Charter provides a unified system of satellite data acquisition and delivery to those affected by natural or human-induced disasters. For information on the International Charter Space and Major Disasters organization see <http://www.disasterscharter.org>. Each Charter member has committed resources to support the provisions of the Charter and thus is helping to mitigate the effects of disasters on human life and property.

The U.S. Department of the Interior's U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) participates in the Charter as a member and receives foreign remote-sensing data support for U.S. disaster response and recovery efforts, and ensures U.S. land imaging data are provided to support foreign disaster response and recovery efforts.

The International Charter is supported by Argentinean, Canadian, European, Indian, Japanese, Chinese, Brazilian, South Korean, Russian, and U.S. satellite operators, as well as U.S. and foreign commercial satellite firms and consortia. These operators can provide a wide variety of imagery and information for various environmental conditions (including, in some instances, through cloud cover and darkness).

Regional Project Manager Concept

USGS seeks support from partner organizations to further develop the Charter's Regional Project Manager (PM) approach, which will enable broader distribution and use of Charter data, thus supporting the Charter goal of universal

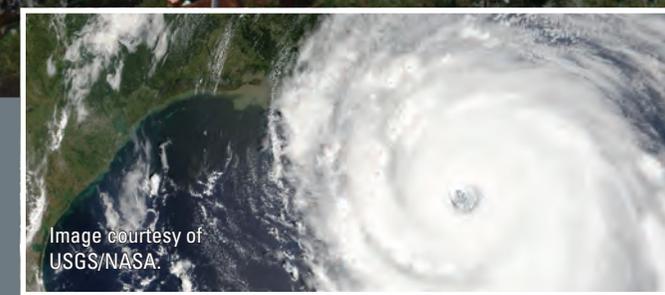


Image courtesy of USGS/NASA.

Hurricane Katrina, August 28, 2005.

access. The PM approach allows a Charter member agency to nominate and support a PM from a non-member country that is affected by a disaster.

The non-member PM is selected from a pre-qualified group and his/her services are offered by the PM's organization. A Charter member agency acting as an Authorized User (AU) activates the Charter and may choose to nominate and support a regional PM. A regional PM may be chosen because of his/her knowledge of the geographical region, relationship with the country concerned, or sponsorship of related in-country projects.

This approach benefits both the Charter member agencies and the disaster-affected country. It allows a direct interface with end-users through a local PM with field knowledge of the area and of the disaster itself. The space-based information may therefore be exploited more effectively for disaster response. Using a local PM reinforces the essential link between an AU and the local emergency management

and civil protection authorities, which are responsible for providing relief services.

This approach provides designated emergency and rescue organizations the capability to request Charter activations through current AUs. The PM is responsible for supervising access to multisatellite data of the Charter partner agencies and generation of value-added products. He/she is obligated to report back on the results of the activation, with feedback from the beneficiaries.

The benefits of having regional PM networks include:

- Direct involvement of the authorities of the affected country
- Facility of end-user interface and the feedback mechanism
- Curtailment of delivery channels and accelerated response
- Enhanced definition of requirements
- More effective data use than traditional activations managed by a non-resident PM
- Further internationalization of the Charter operations

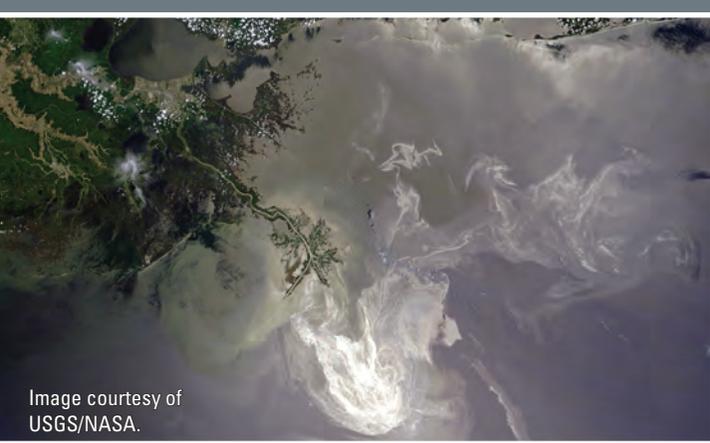


Image courtesy of USGS/NASA.



Image courtesy of USGS/NASA.

Left: Image of oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, May 24, 2010.

Right: Flooding of the Rio Grande River, Texas, July 13, 2010.