

EU-LAC PARTNERSHIP ON DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

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Latest on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Guidelines for the MOU Secretariat have been finalized. The Secretariat that is in charge of facilitating an effective and efficient implementation of the MoU is made up of two permanent representatives, ECHO and UNDRR, and two rotating representatives – one from an intergovernmental organization and one from an individual signatory country. CDEMA and Chile have been confirmed as the two rotating members, and their term will end in mid-July 2025. The Secretariat has begun meeting to lay down the groundwork for effective orientation and implementation of MOU actions.

The action plan to implement the MoU will be presented by the Secretariat to all the signatories for approval during the next plenary meeting that will take place on 4 October 2024. In the meantime, some activities are already taking place while others are being planned.

Recent events

On 8 July 2024, in response to the collective priorities outlined by MOU signatories, close to 150 representatives from national and regional disaster risk management entities participated in an introductory session to scale up exchange and understanding on the broader Copernicus Emergency Management Service and its support to preparedness and response to emergencies.

This action was linked directly to the MOU *Area of Collaboration 2: Strengthening prevention, preparedness, response and early recovery capacities, with broader linkages to the other areas of collaboration*. The session facilitated an exchange of ideas and experiences, promoted a better understanding of the services offered by Copernicus and available tools for emergency management. It also highlighted areas where further and more detailed capacity building is required, based on the existing knowledge and skills of MOU signatories.

This introductory session forms part of a broader capacity building package that will be offered to MOU signatures to strengthen knowledge and understanding on services that are relevant to them. In that sense signatories were invited to participate in the “*Introduction to Earth Observation and Digital Tools*” offered by the Copernicus LAC Panama Centre that took place between 23-27 September.



Upcoming Events

The VII Forum on integrated disaster risk management policies (PCGIR) on Central America will take place in Guatemala City on 10-11 October 2024. Organised by CEPREDENAC, its objective is to update and discuss on the implementation of the PCGIR in line with the Sendai Framework and the 2024-2030 Regional Plan for integrated disaster risk management. It will bring together national and local authorities, civil society, academia and private entities. The Directorate General for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations of the European Union (ECHO) will participate in the Forum.

From 2nd to 6th December, the 13th Caribbean Conference on Comprehensive Disaster Management – CDM Road to Resilience: Checkpoint 2024 - Levelling up for a dynamic future will take place in St. Kitts and Nevis. It will be an exciting opportunity to share information and best practices employed around the world and individual CDEMA states.

Relevant publications

On Copernicus

COPERNICUS LAC Panama Centre has put at the disposal of the MoU signatories and other stakeholders the "Campus resource" pack that includes:

- <https://www.copernicus.eu/en/events/events/eu-space-webinar-el-ecosistema-del-espacio-de-datos-copernicus-cdse-por-sur-letras-en>
- <https://dataspace.copernicus.eu/>
- <https://www.copernicus.eu/en/access-data>
- <https://emergency.copernicus.eu/>
- <https://land.copernicus.eu/en>
- <https://emergency.copernicus.eu/mapping/list-of-activations-rapid>



RELACIONES EXTERIORES

