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**United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response – UN-SPIDER Program**

"United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response-UN-SPIDER" a new initiative by United Nations programme is currently being implemented by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA). The program will focus on the need to ensure access to all member states and all relevant international and regional organizations, use of all types of space-based information relevant to disaster management, covering all phases of the disaster, including the risk reduction phase which will significantly contribute to an increasing reduction in loss of lives and property. Space-based information includes earth observation satellites, communication satellites, meteorological satellites and global navigation satellite systems (GNSS).

The new programme will a focus on being a gateway to space information for disaster management support, serving as a bridge to connect the disaster management and space communities and being a facilitator of capacity-building and institutional strengthening, particularly for developing countries.

The programme with its offices at Vienna, Bonn, Beijing and Geneva will work closely with regional and national centers of expertise in the use of space technology in disaster management through designated National Focal Points (NFP's) and Network of Regional Support Offices (NRSO's) and its partner agencies. Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) is one of the partner agencies for the program in the region.

For more information on the UN SPIDER Program, visit:

<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/unspider/index.html>