



Space for Smarter Government Programme

2016/17 Cross Cutting Thematic Topics:

Executive summary of roadmaps for increasing uptake of satellite data and services for Disaster Risk Management and the Emergency Services

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Document Purpose

The purpose of the roadmap is to publically set out where the Space for Smarter Government Programme (SSGP) is focussing its efforts over the next three years in relation to Disaster Risk Management and Emergency Services themes, and outline how delivery is expected to evolve. Like any technology enabled change approach, exact delivery plans will be heavily influenced by stakeholders' needs, the resources available and wider political priorities. The programme is, however, setting out its intended direction of travel as a framework: to highlight its intended delivery priorities, inform interested parties of that intent and highlight opportunities to engage. Annual delivery work plans will be reviewed by the SSGP Board and approved, in line with budget availability, by the Senior Responsible Owner.

Why are these topics a focus for SSGP?

Emergency Services and Disaster Risk Management are topics which span a number of Government Departments and public sector bodies. End users already benefit from the use of space enabled applications and services; such as GPS for positioning and navigation, satellite communications in remote regions and earth observation imagery of natural disaster zones, which enable more effective emergency preparedness (through early warning) and response at home and abroad.

There is, however, low awareness amongst the public sector of existing space related resources available to them and what additional benefits satellites could bring to other policy delivery areas. There is much more that can be done to exploit new capabilities, improve awareness and to increase the uptake of existing data and services at a local and national level; to improve ways of working and to help realise efficiencies in times of rapid change and austerity.

Long Term Vision

For satellite applications to form an increasingly integral and well understood part of the core, trusted toolkit used by the public sector in the planning for, responding to and recovering from emergencies as well as in the day-to-day operations of emergency services organisations.

Desired End State

Satellite data and space enabled services are embedded, integrated and routinely used by public sector decision makers, policy makers, planners and operational users who deal with all aspects of emergency services and disaster management to reduce risk, manage response, work more effectively and realise efficiencies.

SSGP Thematic Aims

To improve the use and increase the uptake of satellite technologies in support of emergency services and related management activities; providing data, information, advice and assistance to help the public sector move towards embedding new operational services and activities, which will benefit them, the public and indirectly stimulate wider UK economic growth.



Intended Outcomes

- Public sector users are more aware of existing satellite data and services
- More public sector bodies know who to contact and how they can easily access these services
- Satellite data is a key enabler which is available to Local Resilience Fora
- Fit for purpose satellite data and applications are accessible and available through centralised user centric platforms (such as Resilience Direct)
- Satellite data underpins advice and expertise provided to decision makers (i.e. COBR), and is available to experts in a more timely manner
- Senior Departmental sponsors in place to champion uptake for successful demonstrators
- Satellite data becomes routinely integrated with other EO and geospatial data sources, together with forecast / early warning information to provide added value advice to decision makers

Delivery Approach

Over the next three years, the UK Space Agency's Space for Smarter Government Programme (SSGP) will work alongside key stakeholders in disaster management and emergency services organisations that:

- Provide data, information and advice within and external to government
- Deliver operational services and activities in support of government activities
- Define public sector policy in relation to disaster risk management and the emergency services

To

- Increase awareness and improve usage of existing tools, satellite enabled solutions and services supported by satellite technologies
- Explore stakeholder requirements that cannot be met by existing tools, solutions and services
- Identify artificial barriers to the adoption of satellite technology and help to remove those and create new technology insertion opportunities
- Pilot and demonstrate potential new services that can complement and cover the gaps of current services, initially at a local level but which have the potential to be scaled nationally
- Develop sustainable capability solutions, alongside academia and industry, to meet stated needs

By

- Assessing the awareness and effectiveness of current emergency related satellite training and filling identified gaps
- Organising demonstration competitions to de-risk or find solutions to identified requirements
- Providing a feedback mechanism between the public sector and industry to support the development of products and services that more closely align with public sector needs
- Contributing relevant satellite expertise to cross Government stakeholder groups concerned with the provision of data and advice
- Identifying opportunities to embed services nationally, alongside senior departmental sponsors



Key Stakeholders Involved

Within resource constraints, SSGP will engage with any public sector body which proactively seeks assistance on how they can utilise and embed space services and technology to realise efficiencies where those needs are deemed to sufficiently align with the SSGP aims. Based on initial engagements and lead policy departments, key stakeholders include but are not limited to:

- Cabinet Office (CO) – Civil Contingencies Secretariat (CCS) & Resilience Direct (RD)
- Home Office (HO)
- Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA)
- Local Resilience Fora (LRFs)
- The Bluelight Air Support Programme (BASP)
- Natural Hazards Partnership (NHP)
- Ministry of Defence (MOD)
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCGA)
- Dept for International Development (DFID)
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
- Environment Agency (EA)
- Devolved Administrations
- Industry
- UK-GEOS

Figure 1: Emergency Services and Disaster Risk Management Summary Roadmap

