



“SPACE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT”

Joint side event co-organised by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, UN-SPIDER, Austria, and Germany

Tentative Agenda

M2, Vienna International Center | Wednesday, 12 February 2025 | [Join Meeting Online](#)

APPLICATIONS OF SPACE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Moderated by Driss El Hadani, UNOOSA Deputy Director

13:00 - **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

- 13:15
- 1) H.E. Gabriela Sellner, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations in Vienna
 - 2) H.E. Rüdiger Bohn, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations in Vienna

13:15 - **Introduction to the UN-SPIDER Platform**

13:35

The United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) was established by Member States in 2006 to ensure that all countries can access and use space-based information to support disaster management. UN-SPIDER bridges the gap between the space and disaster management communities, working across four key pillars: Technical Advisory Support, Capacity-Building, Fostering Cooperation, and Knowledge Management.

Mr. Lorant Czarán, Chief of the UN-SPIDER Vienna Office

13:35 - **Presentation on the Proposal for the Further Development of Recommended Practices**

13:55

Implementing Recommended Practice in a Cloud based Environment. Step-by-step procedures for the use of space technologies for disaster risk management and emergency response combined with direct data access and software implementations - the next level of technical advisory support through the UN-SPIDER Knowledge Portal

Dr. Michael Schmidt, ZFL Scientific Coordinator, University of Bonn

13:55 - **Monitoring Droughts in Mozambique from Space**

14:15

Food production in Mozambique is under pressure due to its dependence on rainfed agriculture and high susceptibility to droughts. Existing early warning systems depend on limited precipitation and temperature sensors. The DrySat project provides drought information based on microwave remote sensing, which covers large areas at higher resolution. However, managing and interpreting this data is complex. To address this, we developed simple metrics for soil water deficits and the start of the rainy season to support actionable interventions for water shortages and crop health. Additionally, we provide software tools and training to encourage the adoption of remote sensing solutions among smallholder farmers in Mozambique.

Dr. Martin Schobben, Technische Universität Wien

14:15 - **Q&A Session**

14:30
