

FALCON SDI Leadership Proposal – A Regional and National Business Transformation Initiative

As part of the Eye on Disaster Management Special Initiative, AGEDI has seed funded the FALCON SDI project, whose objective is to reduce losses due to disasters through the provision of an innovative Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) governance and leadership capacity. FALCON covers both disaster risk reduction and disaster management, focusing on preparedness, response, and recovery on a regional scale. The Association of American Geographers (AAG), the project lead, has made significant progress identifying a core set of project partners, building connections with additional international organizations, and establishing a timeline of project deliverables that will culminate in a regional RoadMap to guide SDI development in the MENA region. As a focus of these efforts, the AAG developed an interactive website (eoe.aag.org) to bring together Eye on Earth partners and others for collaboration on disaster management, community resilience and related topics.

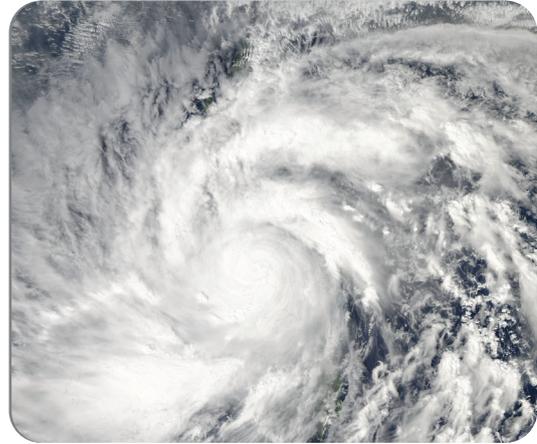
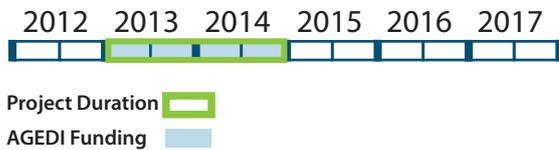


Photo credit: by Jeff Schmaltz, MODIS Land Rapid Response Team, NASA GSFC

Project timeline:



Benefits

- Development of a FALCON RoadMap to assist regional stakeholder organizations in implementing SDI improvements within their member organizations and with member sub-networks.
- Interactive web resource facilitating networking and collaboration among researchers, stakeholders and project participants.
- Engagement and communication with and among key stakeholders through workshop participation to enhance regional capacity building.
- Identification of critical gaps in spatial data and spatial data provision for regional disaster management.

Project Impact

The FALCON project aims to impact on several countries in the Middle East & North Africa Region.

Entities Involved

- **Association of American Geographers (AAG)**
- Clinton Foundation
- Esri
- United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER)
- Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)
- Geographic Planning Collaborative (GPC)
- Brooks and Associates
- United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR).

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Eye on Earth and the 8 Special Initiatives



Eye On Earth

Eye on Earth (EoE) converges initiatives that address the challenges of increasing access to environmental, societal, and economic information. More specifically, EoE is facilitating the global convergence of world class thinkers, actors and capacity builders with a focus on resolving data and information gaps, blockages and needs as required for more effective decision-making towards sustainable development.

8 Special Initiatives

At the inaugural EoE Summit in December 2011, eight (8) Special Initiatives (SIs) were selected. There are considered the chosen eight initiatives are considered by the Eye on Earth Community to fundamentally improve the landscape of environmental and societal information networking for the benefit of mankind, and from which compelling and tangible results can be achieved over the next 2-5 years.



The eight Special Initiatives, 3 foundational and 5 thematic, represent significant programmes of work. The 3 foundational series address issues that cross-cut the 5 thematic Special Initiatives and are seen as essential to supporting effective environmental and societal data and information sharing. Each Initiative is comprised of stakeholders that form a global community of practice. Together, the SIs represent a major portion of the EoE community. Stakeholders are actively engaged in moving initiatives forward through exemplary projects that demonstrate the guiding principles of the EoE Summit Declaration.