## Disaster Response from a NASA Perspective

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WH Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction February 2, 2017

#### Overview

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### Science Mission Directorate Earth Science Division







### Overview

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- NASA Earth Science Disaster Response for Resilience
- Earth Observations and Partnerships
- Case Studies and Workflows
- Opportunities and Next Steps



### https://disasters.nasa.gov/



## **NASA's Tiered Response**

NASA Earth Science Plan for Disaster Response Support



Version 4 July 17, 2016

Program Manager: Dr. David Green Earth Science Division Science Mission Directorate NASA Headquarters

#### Assessment

#### Rapid Hazard Assessment Expected

 Centers and program experts to contribute within scope of daily activity

- Guidance to elevate to Tier response, direct to research or no action

- Days

E.g.: media report

#### Response and Recovery Short Term and Best Effort

- Centers and programs respond as available with only minor impact to existing/on-going activities

 Detailed assessment and products scaled to modest response

- Weeks to Month(s)

E.g.:: Napa Earthquake (2014), Chile Earthquake (2015), Oklahoma tornadoes, yearly floods

#### Tier 2

Significant Contributions Over Extended Period

 Contributions are considerable given continual assessment of size and scale of impact

- Personnel relevant to disaster type (s) expected, tasked, and assigned to support

 Data and products adapted into recovery

- Weeks to Month(s)

E.g.: Nepal Earthquake (2015), Deep Horizon (2010), Eyjafjallajökull Eruption (2015)

#### Tier 3

Disaster is of major national importance

- All relevant personnel expected to review activities for level of support to the disaster and/or be oncall

 Assets and personnel may specifically assigned and tasked for lengthy time period (Months into recovery).

E.g.: Hurricane Katrina (2005), September 11, 2001 attacks **Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill** 



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### **Disaster Response for Nepal**



### **Approach/Principles**

#### Global to local reach on extreme events

- Tiered mobilization
- Best effort following hazard-based playbooks

#### Harvesting and exploiting data

- NASA and Non-NASA data and processing systems
- Infrastructure and natural resource impact maps and models
- Near real-time and direct readout data/product access and visualization systems
- Geospatial platform, GIS and web services

#### **Convergent and integrated research**

• Basic and applied, technology and flight

#### Human Capital

- Center Coordinators, Event Leads and Engagement
- Integrated workforce of scientists, technologists, communication and emergency management specialists
- Principal Investigators, Users, and Volunteer Networks
- Partnerships



#### **International Coordination and Data Sharing**

Group on Earth Observations Committee of Earth Observing Satellites International Charter



Left: Diagram showing disaster types (%) covered by the Charter since its inception in 2000. Over 50% of activations concern flooding. Top: Map illustrating the number of flooding events by country covered by the Charter between 2007 and August 2014 (in total 172 flooding events workdwide).

GEO Flood Task: Supporting access to a unified system of space data acquisition and delivery, models and mapping to support those affected by natural or man-made disasters



**CEOS Flood Dashboard** 

### From Data to Modeling to Mapping **Tools for Decision Support**



Social Issues

Economic Issues

Chemical/Biological/Radiation Hazards

Transportation Networks



Other Layers

### **Flood Response**

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#### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wqLghXCMxBI

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# Flood Response

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#### NASA NASA Tier 1 Response to Record Flooding Mapping a Disaster from Illinois to Mississippi December 29, 2015 – January 15, 2016

- Consolidated flood and waterindex maps
- GIS-capable web-mapping, visualization and decision tools
- Inundation and Damage proxy maps/assessments
- Imagery and interpretive support
  - Prioritized, shared, ingested and processed SAR and optical data over areas of interest and disseminated products to stakeholders

NASA Coordinates Synchronized Space-Air-Ground Observations for Louisiana Floods

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### NASA Global Precipitation Mission – GPM IMERG

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NASA's IMERG data from Aug. 8 to Aug. 15, 2016 showed over 20 inches (508 mm) of rainfall was estimated in large areas of southeastern Louisiana and extreme southern Mississippi. Even greater rainfall totals of 30 inches (762 mm) were indicated in a small area of Louisiana west of Lake Pontchartrain. Credits: NASA/JAXA, Hal Pierce

### **Global Flood Mapping System – GFMS**



Global Flood Monitoring System (GFMS) Adler/Wu University of Maryland



Credit: Bob Adler and Huan WU, UMD

Satellite precipitation estimates merged via the GPM product are utilized as a key Input into the Global Flood Monitoring System (GFMS) utilizing land surface and routing models at 12 and 1 km resolution to estimate the occurrence and intensity of floods. The hydrological calculations are extended into the future (out to five days) using GEOS-5 rainfall predictions.



GFMS showing current conditions and forecasts (3-hr resolution) provided to help plan their response to estimate number of structures and homes impacted.

# NPP Suomi VIIRS Flood Maps



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SNPP/VIIRS downscaled 30-m flood map near Baton Rouge, Louisiana August 15 and August 17, 2016











August 15-17, 2016 VIRRS Flood maps courtesy of Sanmei Li, GMU.<sup>20</sup>



### International Space Stations (ISS) Handheld Digital Camera Photography



- ISS USOS crew acquired imagery of flooding area on Aug 16, 17, 23 in response to target requests from JSC Crew Earth Observations ops team
- Downlinked imagery reviewed and manually georeferenced prior to delivery to USGS HDDS team
- Data potentially useful for validation of SAR and flood extent model products

#### Suomi NPP VIRS Day-Night Band Detects Power Outages NASA Coordinates Synchronized Space-Air-Ground Observations

DNB Image During Flood Event, August 15th American Amage Before Flooding, May

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NASA utilized a new algorithm for producing night time optical data, which was used as one of the assets for assessing impact of the Louisiana floods at the request of FEMA.

for Historic Floods in Louisiana

Data was used for determining power outages as a means of mapping impact zones. (NASA Direct Readout Lab).

Top-L: During flood event, Aug 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016; Bottom-L: Before event, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016. A similar product developed by NASA MSFC to difference images such as these was first provided by NASA Disasters to DHS/FEMA to support efforts to restore power after Hurricane Sandy.

Credit: Dalia Kirschbaum and Miguel Roman, NASA GSFC

# 2016 Midwest Floods

Missouri

2016-01-11 06:02 SM3 Path 51

Frame 630 - 690

Sensor: ALOS-2 SAR (JAXA) Coverage: 70km x (240km + 420km) Resolution: ~12m Blue pixels: Open Land Floods Red pixels: Vegetation Floods Available online at http://aria-share.jpl.nasa.gov/events/

FEMA stated that SAR provides inspection priority for optical imagery and ground response. The ALOS-2 data and the products have been a very important source of information during this response as the flood crest has moved down stream. The SAR data continue to be an important resources during times when optical observations are often not useful.

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# GPM Observes Pineapple Express rainfall, causing flooding in California January 2017

Rainfall anomalies, Jan 10th, 2017

An atmospheric river ("Pineapple Express") delivered over 5 inches of rainfall in parts of California in early January, 2017 (bottom) as viewed by GPM's IMERG data. The 30-day rainfall anomalies ending Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> show TRMM Multi-satellite Precipitation Analysis from 2017 (top right) and 2016 (bottom, right).



+5

+10

+15 (mm/day)



#### SPoRT Soil Moisture Products Highlight California Flood Potential January 2017

- MSFC/SPoRT runs a real-time version of the NASA Land Information System (LIS) to output soil moisture products used in identifying areal flood potential during CA floods in January
- Surface soil moisture one-week change product from LIS (upper right) shows >35% change in some areas meaning higher runoff/flood potential, consistent with other high-profile flood events
- Select NOAA/National Weather Service offices have been using these products for identifying flood potential since early 2014
- Level 2 SMAP soil moisture products (lower right) from the same day show very high soil moisture values in CA
- SPoRT has completed assimilation of the L2 SMAP soil moisture into the real-time LIS and is currently validating this offline run
- Working with to bring SMAP data 1) into the National Water Model and 2) to evaluate impacts on regional numerical
  prediction forecasts

NHACSA



1-Week Difference in Column Relative Soil Moisture (%) valid 12z 11 Jan 2017



#### Synthetic Aperture Radar Uncovers Flooding in NV

Flood Proxy Map (FPM) covering an area of 155by-224 miles (250-by-360 km), derived from Sentinel-1's pre- (2016-12-15 6 PM PST) and during-the-event (2017-01-08 6 PM PST) Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) amplitude images. The colored pixels represent areas of potential flood (Red: flooded vegetation, Blue: open water flood). **Different irrigation** conditions on the two data acquisition dates can produce errors on agricultural lands. This FPM should be used as guidance to identify potential areas of flooding, and may be less reliable over urban areas or snow cover.

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Radar image difference pre-event (12/15/16) and during event (1/8/17)



Overlap of Sentinel ground tracks and FEMA AOIs

Science POC: Sang-Ho Yun Coordinator POC: Rashied Amin Date: 1/17/17

#### Real Time Flood Impact System Detects Recent Flooding in Southern Thailand

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MODIS satellite observations and derived information products (e.g. flooded areas and socioeconomic impacts) are being used by regional NGO's like the Asian Disaster Preparedness center to identify floods and associated impacts to people and infrastructure in near real-time.

## Hurricane Response

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### **Hurricane Matthew October 2016**



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# **Flood Mapping SAR Applications**

In preparation for NISAR's launch, Disasters Team collaborators are working with a variety of platforms to develop products in support of disaster response efforts.

Through the International Charter activation assets, the team obtained data through the CEOS Flood Pilot, and through Sentinel 1A/1B acquisitions from ESA. Team members contributed flood maps to USGS/HDDS and FEMA partners, including:

- SAR Imaging of Haiti, the Dominican Republic and eastern Cuba
- Products for the U.S. coastline including the eastern coast of Florida (via Charter/Radarsat-2) and the Carolinas (via Sentinel)

Collaborations among team members are ongoing to share and explore best practices, improve products, their validation, and automation to provide service to FEMA and international partner disaster response efforts, and to build a user community in preparation for the launch of NISAR.





Sentinel 1A/1B imagery collected in partnership with ESA and delivered through the Alaska Satellite Facility / UAF.

## Imaging Matthew's Circulation with GPM

Collaborative effort between the GPM science team and NASA SPoRT provided brightness temperature and IMERG products to NOAA's National Weather Service and the National Hurricane Center.

- Images on the right capture snapshots of Matthew using NASA's Global Precipitation Measurement mission Microwave Imager (GPM GMI) data, as displayed within the AWIPS decision support system used by NOAA/National Weather Service partners.
- NASA's GPM GMI provides passive microwave brightness temperatures useful for displaying cyclone structure, particularly when able to see through overlying cirrus to the center of circulation and spiraling rain bands.
- In addition, cross-calibration of other passive microwave brightness temperatures are made available from the Precipitation Processing System, along with estimates of rainfall from the Integrated Multi-satellitE Retrievals for GPM (IMERG) product.



Hurricane Matthew approaches Florida on at (top) 9 and (bottom) 19 UTC on October 6, with passive microwave brightness temperatures observed from the GPM GMI; data provided to NOAA/NWS/National Hurricane Center

# GPM observes Hurricane Matthew's rapid intensification and eyewall replacement



- GPM observed intense rainfall (left) as Matthew battered Hispaniola and Cuba
- On Oct. 2 (bottom left) GPM Core Observatory viewed a newly intensified Cat 4 storm south of Haiti, showing strong convection and heavy rainfall in the eye wall and rain bands
- GPM's Microwave Imager (bottom right) observed the storm going through eye wall replacement before impacting Florida as a Cat. 3. This data was provided to FEMA and NWS Offices for situational awareness



## Soil Moisture Mapping of Matthew

- NASA's Land Information System (LIS) assisted NOAA/NWS partners with:
  - Mapping high soil moisture content prior to Matthew and heavy rainfall events where flooding is likely
  - Mapping dry soils to understand the extent of and change in drought, used by NWS partners to inform updates to the U.S. Drought Monitor
  - Understanding how current conditions relate to 30-year climatology
- LIS outputs were shared with NOAA/NWS and USGS/HDDS during their Hurricane Matthew response.
- New application partners identified (U.S. Forest Service); other spinoffs to follow, including power-outage prediction when combined with predicted wind speeds, duration, and extent.

(Top) (0-2 m) soil moisture (0-100%) pre- and post-Matthew. (Bottom) Soil moisture compared to 30-year climatology (percentiles). Pre-Matthew soils were saturated in the eastern Carolinas and drier in eastern Florida; high soil moisture remains.

NASA SPoRT/GSFC LIS: October 1-12, 2016







#### Flood products provided for Hurricane Matthew Response

- The Global Flood Monitoring System provided inundation estimates, flood intensity/detection, and forecasts for Matthew (bottom right)
- GMU used VIIRS to map estimated inundation area follow Matthew's passage (bottom left)
  Inundation on same time: Oct. UTC 18:00: Global Flood Mode





Samei Li, Donglian Sun/GMU

Huan Wu, Bob Adler/UMD

### **Heavy Rainfall and Flood Prediction**

- Extensive inland flooding was widely predicted as a result of extremely heavy rains inland of Matthew's trajectory up the eastern seaboard.
- The Global Flood Monitoring project used NASA GEOS-5 model simulations of precipitation, combined with streamflow and flood predictions to map areas of likely flooding in eastern North Carolina, South Carolina, coastal Georgia, and northeastern Florida.
- These areas experienced record rainfall with Matthew, resulting in several days of near or record flooding in the areas highlighted by the Global Flood Monitoring project's flood predictions.



NASA GEOS-5 48-hour rainfall prediction (top) and associated prediction of streamflow and resulting flooding associated with Matthew's coastal impacts on the Carolinas and coastal Georgia.

### **Power Outages with S-NPP VIIRS**

- Collaborations between NASA Goddard, their Direct Readout Laboratory, and MSFC/SPoRT have contributed pre- and post-event light comparisons using VIIRS Day-Night Band emissions and gridded products that incorporate corrections for moonlight.
- This approach allows for analyzing changes between pre- and post-event scenes and identifying missing or reduced lights due to power outages and other impacts from Hurricane Matthew.
- Products provided to FEMA, with future goals of reduced latency and automation.



Animation of change in lights pre- and postevent; lights here are shown in yellow, and preor post-event cloud cover in blue.



Comparison of pre- ("normal") and post-event light emission along the southeastern coast following Hurricane Matthew, on October 9.

### **CYGNSS Launched December 2016**

- CYGNSS is a constellation of 8 microsatellites that will use direct and reflected GPS signals to measure ocean surface wind speed during most precipitation events, with a special focus on tropical cyclones.
- Median revisit time = 2.8 hr
- Mean revisit time = 5.9 hr



Target launch date: 2016



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## Earthquake Response

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### NASA's Response to the magnitude 7.8 Gorkha Earthquake in Nepal – April 25, 2015



### **Damage Proxy Map from ALOS-2**



For more information about ARIA, visit: http://aria.jpl.nasa.gov

- Highlights areas of potential damage caused by M7.8 Nepal earthquake (70 km x 180 km)
- Used by World Bank, USGS, OFDA/USAID, ICIMOD, and GEER for damage assessment, NGA for analysis priority, DigitalGlobe for WorldView image acquisition planning
- 657 downloads worldwide in May 2015
- Derived from SAR data from JAXA ALOS-2 (L-band)

#### Gorkha Earthquake Volunteers Image Analysis Group



Flags indicate nation of volunteers home institution(s)

Volunteer global campaign to assist with earthquake disaster, coordinated by the University of Arizona

 Six areas of interest were defined according to river valley.
Expert researchers from 9 nations contributed to the satellite image analysis.

NASA data: Landsat, ASTER, EO-1 ALI, SRTM data; (+ DigitalGlobe, WorldView images through commercial partnership).

Aided NASA, USGS and NGA in the targeting of satellite imaging

Results reported to NASA,
SERVIR Applied Science Team,
and authorities in Nepal



#### Gorkha Earthquake: Langtang Valley landslides, Nepal



<sup>0 0.5 1 2</sup> km

- Langtang Valley was severely affected by the main earthquake and aftershocks.
- Image analysis by volunteer group validated and qualified effects of the disaster.
- Several villages destroyed or damaged, more than 200 people killed, dozens missing.
- Information relayed to authorities resulted in relief helicopter missions to the valley
- Recurrent landsliding resulted in complete evacuation and public closure of the valley.



### Ghap landslide-dammed lake, Manaslu region





- ~450 m wide landslide at its base at river level and originated from a point ~1 km up slope.
- > ~150 m wide and 1.4 km long dammed lake
- Lake still exists and rose slightly as of May 17 Landsat coverage

## **Regional landslide mapping**

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## Volcano Response

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# **NASA Volcano Response**

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#### Fire, Ice, and Safer Skies NASA SATELLITES TRACK VOLCANIC CLOUDS

#### NASA SAR-Views: Boogoslof – Tracking the Destruction of an Island January 2017



SARVIEWS assisting USGS Alaska Volcano Observatory with image time series and change detection information As of: 1/13/17

NASA ASP DISASTERS MOST RECENT VOLCANO HAZARD SUPPORT Bogoslof Eruption Dec'16 – Jan'17



END-USER TESTIMONY D. Schneider (AVO) via email on 1/12/17:

"This has been a fascinating eruption for many of us and it is remarkable how much information you have provided for such a remote volcano. I appreciate your help and the support of NASA"

# NASA and Mission Partnerships NISAR\* and Resilience



Among the many existing, new and planned missions NISAR is one of many examples where NASA partnerships opportunities would *improved resilience and response* 

NISAR will change the way the world shares data and provide advanced radar imaging that it will capture uniquely the Earth in motion



#### Earthquakes

Volcanoes

#### Landslides

Floods



Fires

Land Subsidence

NASA and ISRO (the Indian Space Research Organisation) \* Synthetic Aperture Radar Mission Concept to Launch in 2020

# **Oil Spill Response**

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#### NASA Application Science and Technology Deployed in Norway's Annual Oil Spill Cleanup Exercise

- NASA/UAVSAR deployed for the first time in the annual Norwegian "Oil on Water" spill exercise June 8-11, 2015 in simulation of a large spill (10s of kl) in the North Sea
- Objective to advance application science, calibrate and validate technology and test oil characterization models, demonstrate L-band SAR-based capacity, and inform NISAR Mission applications science
  - Concurrent sea truth and optical, IR, and satellite SAR imagery all obtained at no cost to NASA.
- Norwegian collaboration expected to lead to oilin-ice spill response capability – important for Arctic oil exploration







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Response: https://disasters.nasa.gov/

Program: http://appliedsciences.nasa.gov/programs/disasters-program