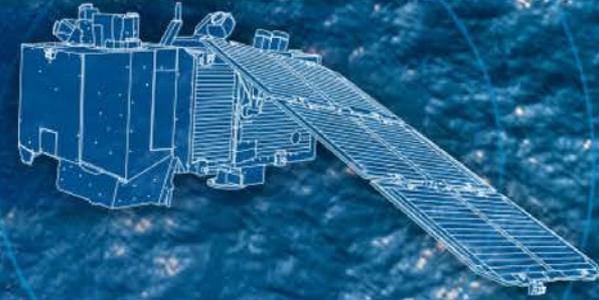


→ SPACE SOLUTIONS FOR RESILIENCE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

27–28 June 2017 | ESPLORA, Kalkara, MALTA



Exploring the nexus between humanitarian and development policies

Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion

Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Development and Humanitarian

MT Presidency = oversaw a period of change and advancement in these two policy areas:

1. European Consensus

- Adoption of a new European Consensus on Development, the new International Development policy of the EU for the next fifteen years;
- A new shared vision and plan of action for the EU and its MS to achieve sustainable development in response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. Humanitarian – Development nexus

- **Humanitarian crises:** increasingly protracted and volatile, blurring the traditional distinction between short-term humanitarian and long-term development assistance.
- **MT aimed to bridge the gaps** between humanitarian aid and development coop.
- **Adoption of Council Conclusions** on operationalising the hum/dev nexus.

Development and humanitarian must go hand in hand in order for the 2030 Agenda to succeed.

Linking Humanitarian and Development

- More than 1.5 billion people affected by fragility and violent conflict;
- Humanitarian appeals more than tripled in just one decade;
- Humanitarian aid growing, but humanitarian need growing at a faster rate;
- Crisis is long term, impedes development, and compromises opportunities for national capacity building;
- **Priority is prevention** to avert and mitigate shocks and support national partners to address the root causes of conflict and to reduce risks from other hazards.
- Localised and joint actions are a vital hallmark of the approach to bridging the humanitarian-development nexus.

5 possible actions to enhance the hum/dev nexus

1. **Strengthening the coordination** platforms on all levels;
2. **Improvement in planning horizons** and accelerating development planning and broadening the horizon of humanitarian action to address the “mid-term”;
3. **SDGs should be placed at the centre of all this process;**
4. Focussing on **prevention** and on acting fast when the alarm bells of fragility ring;
5. The **money** - which should be used for humanitarian and development actors, first and second responders, together as joint endeavours should be rewarded.

Role of Copernicus in emergencies

- The humanitarian-development nexus provides plenty of examples in relation to space solutions for resilience in the Mediterranean.
- Earth Observation (EO) systems will help in achieving the 2030 Agenda. The best example of such an EO system is Copernicus.
- The services provided by Copernicus can help in humanitarian aid since it supports prevention efforts by providing data that identifies risks, thus preventing loss of life and damages.
- Copernicus can also support response efforts by providing maps that identify the extent of the disaster.

- In the aftermath, Copernicus can also monitor the impact on the environment, economy and human safety.
- The international community is constantly looking for means to measure the progress being made towards achieving the SDGs, and Copernicus can provide raw data to measure progress made on, for instance, climate change goals.
- As part of the humanitarian community, we need to ensure that we make full use of the early warning systems and response capabilities at our disposal.

- For instance, Copernicus' European Flood Awareness System provides warnings on forecasted floods in Europe up to ten days in advance.
- In the spirit of operationalising the humanitarian-development nexus this data can also be used for specific development goals, such as generating various.
- If we utilise space solutions to be better prepared for disasters when they do happen, then our humanitarian response will be faster and more efficient.

Link with the root causes of migration

- The migratory crisis has touched everyone, and it benefits us all if we safeguard the economic development of countries of origin.
- Humanitarian assistance alone cannot contain the growing development needs of countries of origin.
- Challenge needs to be addressed in a holistic manner.
- Development processes together with migration and mobility are very often interlinked.
- Migration and forced displacement, both a challenge and an opportunity for development (Agenda 2030).
- SDG Implementation reduces the need for migrants to leave their homes... root causes of migration.

Conclusion

1. Multitude of transnational threats in Med region;
2. Using space technology to increase the region's resilience, is a welcome prospect.
3. Space technology may be harnessed to potentially monitor the traffickers' and smugglers' operations and as a pre-warning system during a natural or humanitarian crisis.
4. This technology could prove crucial to operationalising the humanitarian-development nexus.

- The reduction of poverty does depend on the progress we make in utilising the synergies between humanitarian aid and development cooperation.
- The 2030 Agenda has set out ambitious goals for the world to achieve. If we work together and utilise all the technology at our disposal, I do believe that we will reach the targets set out in the SDGs and create a world where no one is left behind.