

## OECD Space Forum Study FAQ: *The role of space technologies and ICT in the surveillance of major threats*

January – December 2012

**Objective:** Space technologies and ICT can contribute to tackling a number of key societal challenges. The objective of this OECD study is to investigate how different space applications (Earth observation, telecom, navigation, positioning, and timing), combined with ICT, can assist in the surveillance of major threats (based on those identified by the OECD Global Shocks project and the World Economic Forum) today and in the near-to-medium term future (8-10 years).

**Workshops:** The OECD Study examined some 20 diverse threats, covered via five workshops (25-30 participants):

1. Natural disasters (Brussels, February): Hosted by the European Virtual Institute for Integrated Risk Management (Eu-Vri), this workshop focused on three selected natural disasters: earthquakes, tsunamis and geomagnetic storms.
2. Ocean surveillance (London, March): Hosted by Inmarsat, this workshop focused on two selected maritime risks: piracy and illegal fisheries.
3. Transport and energy infrastructure risks (Stuttgart, May): Hosted by the European Virtual Institute for Integrated Risk Management (EU-Vri), this workshop focused on two selected risks: threats to air traffic and to energy infrastructure.
4. Health risks (Paris, June): Hosted by CNES, this workshop focused on three health risks: early management of pandemics, the telesurveillance of (infectious) diseases, and the monitoring of air pollution.
5. Space security (Paris, July): Hosted by ESA, this workshop focused on two specific risks to the space infrastructure: interferences of satellite signals (navigation, telecom) and collisions in orbit (space debris).

**Participation:** The five workshops, in addition to providing useful material for the study, assembled more than 100 representatives of 16 countries (BEL, CAN, CHE, DEU, ESP, FRA, GBR, IRL, ITA, LUX, JPN, NOR, USA, as well 3 non-OECD countries: BRA, IND, Chinese Taipei), representatives of academia and research institutes, NGOs, the private sector and industry associations, as well as 14 intergovernmental organisations (European Commission; EC European Fisheries Control Agency; EC Joint Research Centre; Eurocontrol; European Union Naval Force; European Maritime Safety Agency; European Space Agency; International Maritime Organisation; International Maritime Satellite Organisation; International Telecommunication Union; UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission; UN Office for Outer Space Affairs; World Bank; and the World Health Organisation).

**Upcoming Outputs:**

- A high-level OECD symposium on October 12<sup>th</sup> 2012
- A OECD synthesis report on the "Role of space technologies and ICT in the surveillance of major threats"