

Satellites for Development in Africa

Briefing for the European Satellite Operators
Association (ESOA)

Brussels

9th of October 2006

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The Millennium Development Goals and Africa

- 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;**
2. Achieve universal primary education;
3. Promote gender equality;
4. Reduce child mortality;
5. Improve maternal health;
- 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases;**
7. Ensure environmental sustainability; and
8. Develop a global partnership for development.

International commitment

Food Security Facts of Africa

- Poor economic performance in the last three decades
- 32 out of 35 countries with low HDI are in Africa
- 1/3 of the entire population currently live in chronic hunger – do not have enough to eat
- 45% of the population live under a dollar a day
- The number of food emergencies have tripled since the 80ies
- It is the only continent where food aid delivery requirement is increasing

Africa risks missing the MDGs

Food crises is a main threat to achieving the MDGs

Where national governments

- Lack the necessary resources to effectively respond to humanitarian crises;
- Lack effective policies and strategies on disaster risk management; and
- **Lack institutional capacity and infrastructure to generate and share reliable information**

Need to Strengthen Institutional Capacity

Effective Humanitarian Response

Timely response to food crises will

- Contribute to saving lives and livelihoods
- Reduce vulnerability to future risks and enhance resilience
- Protect hard earned developmental gains against shocks
- Contribute to the achievement of all the MDGs and set sustainable development on track

Reliable information is a pre-condition

Generating enabling information to support the MDGs

Using advances in satellite technologies and GIS more effectively to support sustainable development

1. Satellite applications for enhanced environmental assessment and monitoring
2. Satellite applications for effective communication

Satellite applications for environmental monitoring

- **Baseline risk mapping** – livelihood zoning, vulnerability profiling, agro-ecological zones, cropping patterns
- **Vulnerability Monitoring** – seasonal monitoring of food security indicators such as nutrition, markets, agricultural production
- **Disaster assessment** – flooded area, drought affected area, etc
- **Operational planning** – infrastructure, accessibility, insecurity situation, water points

Satellite communication applications that support development ⁸

Currently widely used

- Media such as the BBC and CNN
- Mobile phones and internet

Potential

- Health delivery (e-health)
- Education delivery (e-learning)
- Commercial transactions (e-commerce)

Conclusion

- Satellite technologies and applications have great potential for creating an enabling environment towards achieving the MDGs
- Several initiatives that use Earth Observation applications are being supported by donors to support humanitarian action
- Applications in satellite communications require to be promoted further as this is key for sustainable development

Recommendations

- Many governments in developing countries may not be aware of the availability of satellite technologies that can support their efforts
- We need to shift our thinking of Africa as a business opportunity not just a continent dependent on foreign aid
- New technologies can give Africa a jump start in several sectors including the communication sector
- We need to engage with governments of developing countries as well as lobby the donor community to invest in Africa

EU commitments (Oct 2)

Establish an EU-Africa Partnership on Infrastructure to support programs that facilitate interconnectivity at inter-regional continental level. An estimated €5.6 billion will over the next six years be dedicated to identify and address missing links and improve security and safety in transport, water, energy and ICT networks.

Agreed to organise a first-ever EU-Africa Business Forum in Brussels on 16 and 17 November to identify innovative ways to attract vitally needed private investment for Africa's growing economies.

Establish joint strategies to tackle the challenges of agriculture and environment

The challenge

Eradicate hunger and reduce human suffering

IT CAN BE DONE

Thank you