

# Satellite Rapid Mapping & Open Data

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# Crisis management for “natural” disaster

## Focus on: flooding



# Need for “fast” information

Preliminary estimation of emergencies and damages



Satellite Rapid Mapping and Open Data (*Emergency & Disaster*)

# Need for “fast” information

Effective and efficient planning & coordination of mitigation actions





# Need for “fast” information

Rapidness

Satellite  
&  
Opendata

Sharing

Large  
area



# Rapid mapping for flooding

Challenges	Answers
Fast response (best within hours) Bad weather conditions (heavy rain/clouds)	Satellite rapid mapping 1-2 days response Active sensors
Shared and easy access High level crisis management (GIS) Local crisis management units (GIS & charts) On field units (portable devices)	Open (Geo) Data (Geo) Information freely available & usable Well known characteristics and unified standard(s)

# Satellite rapid mapping for flooding

Challenges: fast response, bad weather conditions

Earth observation technology: Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) sensors

- Not affected by weather conditions or night&day timing
- Very “sensitive” to water covered areas
- Constellation of satellites able to cover in 6-12h thousand of km<sup>2</sup>

Mature methodologies:

- “one-shot” detection & multi-temporal analysis
- highly automatic processing

# Open Data concept

Challenge: shared and easy access to data for all actors involved

Open Data: a philosophy and a practice for “public” data

- Well defined open licences
- No bureaucracy needed to access the data
- Optimisation of costs for all the public institutions involved
- Further exploitation of the data by private sector
- Maximisation of data value and benefits to citizens





# Example of a real application

Event: Sardinia flooding 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2013

Purpose: to benefit the community (no-profit) testing satellite rapid mapping & OpenData capabilities

Actors:

- ❖ Satellite providers of SAR data
- ❖ EO processing and maps provision: Planetek Italia
- ❖ User: Sardinia Regional authorities
- ❖ Sharing: OpenStreetMap community



# Sardinia flooding 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2013

## Fast mapping demo

Single TerraSAR-X scene (1,500km<sup>2</sup>)

- 20<sup>th</sup> Nov: scene acquisition
- 21<sup>st</sup> Nov: scene provided
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov: map of water areas
- 25<sup>th</sup> Nov: shared within OpenStreetMap

## SAR capabilities demo

33 COSMO-SkyMed scenes acquired between 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov (13,000km<sup>2</sup>)

- Multi-temporal map of flooded areas
- Maps of water areas for each single scene
- Shared within OpenStreetMap

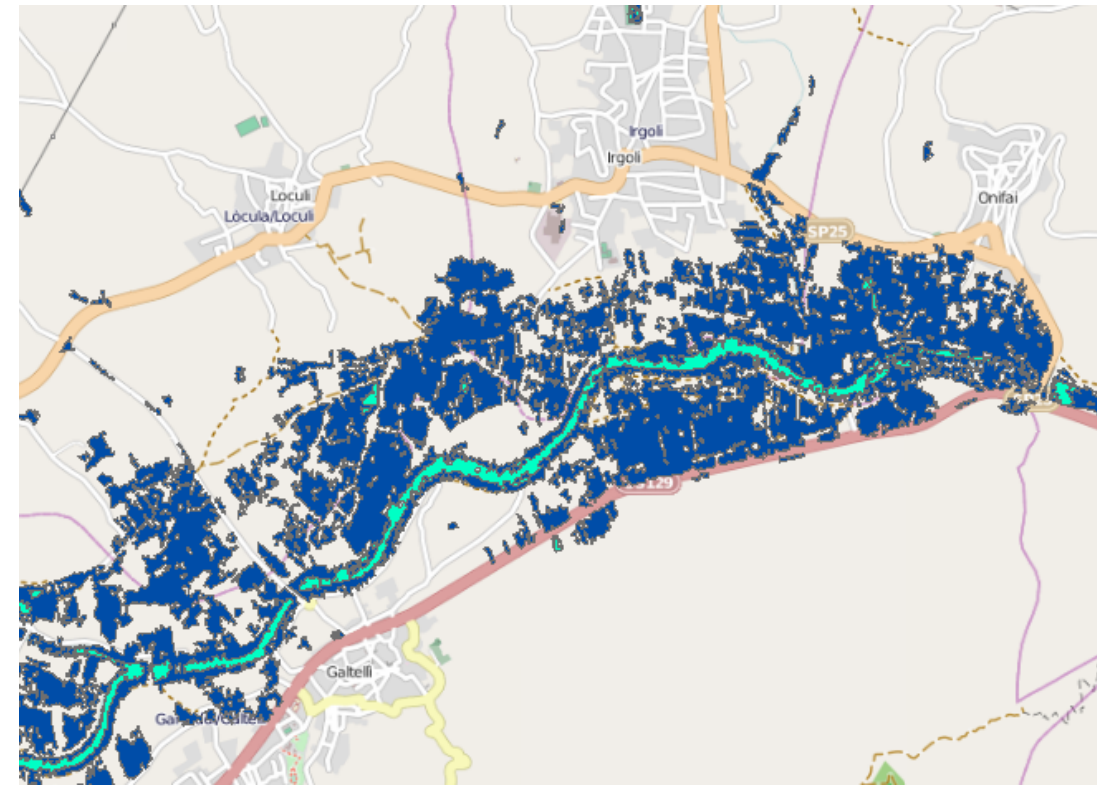
Maps & Metadata were compliant to EU INSPIRE directive and delivered under the Creative Common licence CC-BY 4.0

Both approaches adapt for fast mapping

# Map examples



Left: map of areas covered by water, obtained from the single TerraSAR-X scene.  
Background: Bing™ map



Right: map of flooded areas (dark blue) and permanent water bodies (cyan), obtained from multi-temporal COSMO-SkyMed scenes.

Background: OpenStreetMap

# User feedback

## (Sardinia Regional Authorities)

- ❖ Fully compliant with standards adopted by the user (INSPIRE)
- ❖ Integrated into user's GIS-based decision system for:
  - Planning of mitigation measures
  - Evaluation of damages entity and reimbursement

# Satellite rapid mapping & Open Data

## Conclusions

### Current strengths

- ✓ SAR capabilities for:
  - fast mapping
  - flood mapping
- ✓ Full automatic processes
- ✓ OpenGeoData & INSPIRE
  - sharing and accessibility
  - re-use

### Prospects

- Copernicus Sentinel-1 mission: fast availability and procurement of open SAR data
- Fast mapping services



# Satellite rapid mapping & Open Data



# Thank you for your attention

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