



SUPPORT TO **CRISIS** MANAGEMENT

Through the provision of reliable, secure and cost-effective satellite communications services to public and governmental actors, GOVSATCOM will support the management of unexpected and security-sensitive events. These range from natural and man-made disasters and humanitarian crises to terrorist attacks and Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions.

These governmental actors encompass both military and civilian responders, who need guaranteed services enabling communication and the exchange of information with – and between – their rear bases and operational command and control centres.

Main GOVSATCOM beneficiaries will include EU and Member States' civil protection teams, police and homeland security forces, military forces, humanitarian aid responders, but also local EU and national delegations.

Although the primary focus is on continental Europe and its neighbouring regions, GOVSATCOM will have the capacity to provide satellite communication services over crisis areas anywhere in the world, in less than 12 or 48 hours depending on the urgency. GOVSATCOM will offer a large portfolio of communication services (e.g. voice, email, chat, messaging, video conferencing, video, access to data and maps) and will support specific applications such as telemedicine or cargo and asset tracking. It will also support the operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS), which are increasingly used in crisis management missions.

20 EVENTS

Each year, around 20 events require the activation of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism and lead to the deployment of teams in the field, with reliable and secure communications needs.





GOVSATCOM to support emergency response operations

During the summer of 2019, several million hectares of forest were ravaged by fire in Bolivia, thus leading the Bolivian government to trigger the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. In response, a group of highly specialised firefighters from Europe was sent on site to support local teams. With global warming, such disasters are expected to multiply in the years to come. Each time, the EU civil protection teams deployed in the field will need to communicate between themselves and with their local coordination centre. The latter will also need to communicate with their headquarters in Brussels. GOVSATCOM will bring a solution to these challenges, in contexts where terrestrial communication means may have been damaged.

"In the field, communication is essential for an efficient response of firefighters. Lives cannot be put at risk just because terrestrial infrastructures are damaged or unavailable."



GOVSATCOM to support humanitarian aid

"We take risks to assist thousands of people with food, water, healthcare, shelter, and protection. To achieve this, our teams must be able to rely on the availability of secure and robust communication means."



Regions such as the African Great Lakes, Central Sahel or the horn of Africa continue to face armed conflicts and insecurity, leading to forced displacements, food shortages, and recurrent outbreaks of epidemics. The support and protection of these populations falls within the framework of the European Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) which is an integral part of the EU's comprehensive approach towards crisis management. In this context, the European Union Naval Force Operation ATALANTA (EU NAVFOR - Somalia) contributes to maritime security in the Gulf of Aden region to protect vulnerable shipping, preserve trade lanes and guarantee the supply of humanitarian goods. In these contexts, GOVSATCOM will help to complement damaged or unavailable local telecommunication infrastructures and offer an appropriate protection against jamming, spoofing or hacking.



In addition to Crisis Management, GOVSATCOM services will also underpin Border and Maritime Surveillance as well as the Management of Key Infrastructures, including diplomatic communication networks.

GOVSATCOM

in partnership with



EU SPACE