The process starts by completing a registration form available on the Charter website: https://disasterscharter.org/web/guest/how-to-register-as-a-user.

The registration form, together with a cover letter of the user organisation, should be sent by e-mail to the Charter Executive Secretariat (ExecutiveSecretariat@disasterscharter.org), which coordinates Charter operations.

The request is processed by the Charter members who may ask for additional clarification or information.

The final acceptance of a national user is subject to approval and written notification via official letter by the Charter Board, the policy body of the Charter.

New users are asked to sign a document specifying certain procedures and contacts for Charter activation requests. This is necessary to ensure adherence to Charter rules and to avoid loss of time and resources during emergencies.

To complete the process, the candidate undergoes a simple exercise to simulate the steps of a Charter activation. This process will validate the ability of national authorities to access and use Charter assets for disaster response, in accordance with Charter operational procedures.

Charter members are also interested in learning about other organisations in the same country as the national entity, with the capacity to analyze and use satellite data for emergency mapping. These organisations could become recipients of data in the instance of an activation in the country in order to support with the creation of Value Added Products the caller.

A country which does not have a disaster management authority equipped to meet the Charter’s essential criteria given above, can get support from the Charter using the mechanisms explained in p.2.

The Charter is a worldwide collaboration among space agencies to make satellite data available for the benefit of disaster management authorities during the response phase of an emergency.

Today, 17 agencies worldwide participate in the Charter:
- European Space Agency, ESA
- Centre national d’études spatiales, France, CNES
- Canadian Space Agency, CSA
- US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA
- Comisión Nacional de Actividades Espaciales, Argentina, CONAE
- Indian Space Research Organization, ISRO
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, JAXA
- United States Geological Survey, USGS
- UK Space Agency, UKSA and Disaster Monitoring Constellation International Imaging Ltd., DMCii
- China National Space Administration, CNSA
- German Aerospace Center, DLR
- Korea Aerospace Research Institute, KARI
- Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais, Brazil, INPE
- European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites, EUMETSAT
- State Space Corporation, ROSCOSMOS
- Bolivarian Agency for Space Activities, ABAE
- United Arabs Emirates Space Agency, UAESA and Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Center, MBRSC

More detailed information is available on https://disasterscharter.org/web/guest/how-the-charter-works. For further inquiries please contact ExecutiveSecretariat@disasterscharter.org.

The Charter is a worldwide collaboration among space agencies to make satellite data available for the benefit of disaster management authorities during the response phase of an emergency.
WHO USES THE CHARTER?

The Charter is a worldwide collaboration among space agencies to make satellite data available for the benefit of disaster management authorities during the response phase of an emergency. The Charter is unique in being able to mobilize space agencies around the world and benefit from their expertise and satellites through a single access point that operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week no matter the user. Successfully operating since November 2000, the Charter has brought space assets into action for many natural and technological disasters including floods, hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, landslides, forest fires, volcanic eruptions, sea jats, and oil spills. Since its inception, the Charter has been activated in response to over 300 major disasters in more than 125 countries, including the 2004 Asian tsunami, the 2005 cyclone Nargis in Myanmar, the 2006 earthquake in Haiti, the 2010 earthquake in Nepal, the 2017 hurricane Irma and Maria in the Caribbean and US, the 2018 earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia and the 2019 large flood in Mozambique.

WHAT IS THE INTERNATIONAL CHARTER? WHAT DOES THE CHARTER PROVIDE? WHAT IS UNIVERSAL ACCESS?

The Charter is a worldwide collaboration among space agencies to make satellite data available to designated users for disaster response, the Charter has opened its doors even wider since 2012. By adopting the principle of Universal Access, the Charter is further strengthening its contribution to disaster management worldwide.

WHAT CONDITIONS APPLY?

The following criteria must be met by an entity requesting to become a new user:

- The entity must be a national disaster management authority or its delegated agency in that country.
- The entity must have the capacity to download and utilize maps
- The entity must be able to submit and pursue its activation requests in English
- The entity or its delegated agency should have a national mandate to coordinate emergency response resources in the respective country.
- The material provided by the Charter could be either remotely sensed imagery or derived information products such as crisis or damage assessment maps. The basic information to be provided during an activation request includes: date and time of disaster occurrence, affected area with geographic coordinates (Latitude/Longitude), type of hazard, and name of the contact person for any communication with the Charter.

Basic conditions have been established to ensure that all user organisations authorised to trigger the Charter are able to make effective use of the Charter’s resources.