

Map+ Challenge 2026

Show how maps can help us prepare, respond, and recover from disasters.

Submission deadline: **30 September 2026**

About the Challenge

The GeoMundus Map+ Challenge 2026 invites participants to demonstrate how cartography and geospatial analysis can contribute to disaster management and resilience. Participants are encouraged to create maps that communicate information effectively, support decision-making, and raise awareness about hazards and their impacts.

Theme: Disaster Management

Submissions may address:

- Natural hazards (floods, earthquakes, landslides, wildfires, droughts, storms)
 - Risk assessment and preparedness
 - Emergency response and recovery
 - Climate-related disasters and adaptation
 - Vulnerability, exposure, and resilience analysis
 - Humanitarian mapping and crisis management
-

Eligibility

- Open to all registered attendees of the GeoMundus Conference
 - Individual and team submissions accepted
 - Each participant or team may submit one entry
 - Submitted work must be original and created specifically for the Map+ Challenge 2026
-

Technical Requirements

Maps should:

- Include a title, legend, scale, and north arrow where appropriate
- Clearly identify data sources and projection information when relevant
- Follow sound cartographic design principles
- Ensure readability and accessibility
- Be submitted in English

Use of Artificial Intelligence

AI-generated content is not permitted.

To ensure fairness, originality, and transparency:

- Participants must create all maps, analyses, written descriptions, and visual elements themselves
- The use of generative artificial intelligence tools (including ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, Copilot, Midjourney, DALL·E, Stable Diffusion, and similar systems) for generating maps, text, graphics, or other submission materials is prohibited
- Standard GIS functionalities and analytical tools embedded within GIS software are permitted, provided they do not generate creative or textual content
- Organizers reserve the right to request additional information regarding workflows and methodologies
- Submissions containing AI-generated material will be disqualified

Ethical Principles

Participants are expected to uphold responsible and ethical geospatial practices.

Data Responsibility

- Use legally obtained and appropriately licensed datasets
- Provide attribution for all datasets, imagery, and external resources
- Respect copyright and intellectual property rights

Privacy and Sensitive Information

- Do not disclose personally identifiable information
- Avoid revealing sensitive locations or information that may put communities or individuals at risk
- Ensure compliance with applicable data protection regulations

Fair Representation

- Avoid misleading visualizations and manipulative cartographic techniques
- Clearly communicate assumptions, uncertainties, and limitations
- Present information objectively and responsibly

Social Responsibility

- Consider the societal implications of the map
 - Avoid misinformation, discrimination, or harmful content
 - Ensure respectful representation of affected populations and vulnerable communities
-

Intellectual Property

Participants retain ownership of their submissions. By participating, authors grant GeoMundus a non-exclusive right to display, reproduce, and promote submitted works for educational, scientific, and outreach purposes with proper attribution. Participants are solely responsible for ensuring that their submissions do not infringe upon third-party rights.

Code of Conduct

Participants are expected to:

- Act professionally and respectfully
- Promote scientific integrity and ethical cartographic practices
- Acknowledge all collaborators and data providers
- Refrain from plagiarism, falsification, or misrepresentation of results
- Respect copyright, licensing, and data-sharing agreements
- Foster an inclusive and respectful environment free from discrimination, harassment, or harmful content

Failure to adhere to these principles may result in disqualification.

Declaration of Originality

By submitting an entry to the Map+ Challenge 2026, participants declare that:

- The submitted work is their original creation
 - All datasets, imagery, and external resources have been properly cited and used in accordance with applicable licenses
 - No generative artificial intelligence tools were used to create maps, graphics, analyses, or written descriptions
 - The submission does not violate intellectual property rights or applicable laws
 - The information presented is accurate to the best of the participant's knowledge
 - The participant agrees that GeoMundus may display and promote the work with appropriate attribution
-

Questions?

Contact us at program@geomundus.org

Let your maps tell the story of resilience.