

# 2025 Drones, AI and GIS for DRM Conference and Workshop

## Programme

*Theme: Turning Collective Ambition into Regional Resilience*

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### Day 1 – Monday, November 3, 2025 – Radisson Blu Hotel, Umhlanga

08:30 – 09:00	Arrival, Registration & Badge collection
09:00 – 09:30	Opening Remarks, housekeeping & safety brief by the host <i>South Africa Flying Labs &amp; QP Drone Tech</i>
09:30 – 09:45	Minister/Deputy Minister's address and official conference opening
09:45 – 10:00	Head of Administration Office in Disaster Management's address <i>Deputy Director-General</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Welcoming the SADC Delegates <i>Mayor of eThekwin Municipality office</i>
10:15 – 11:00	Opening Plenary: Why geospatial data matters for DRM in the SADC region <i>SADC SHOC, NDMC- South Africa, DMISA</i>
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Coffee &amp; Tea break</b>
11:30 – 11:45	Keynote address: Localization: Determining the value of geospatial data in DRM – <i>WeRobotics</i>
11:45 – 12:30	Panel: Role of Drone, AI and GIS in DRM and strengthening NDMA's objectives in the region <i>SADC SHOC, NDMA</i>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30 – 14:15	Panel: Public sector interventions for DRM: regional, national, provincial and local governments <i>National Agriculture and Rural Development-Food Security, The Provincial and Local government, Local Metropolitan Municipality, Amathole district, Ethekewini Metro</i>
14:15 – 14:30	Sponsor's address: Towards a regional geospatial infrastructure <i>Esri</i>
14:30 – 14:45	Partner's address: Bridging the technology gap <i>Wingtra</i>
14:45 – 15:00	Technical presentation: Fostering Innovation: Research and Development <i>R&amp;D</i>
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Coffee &amp; Tea Break</b>

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15:30 – 15:45	User experience presentation: Industry-specific DRM interventions: Renewable energy <i>SASOL</i>
15:45 – 16:00	Technical presentation: Drones, data and AI solutions platform for climate and disaster resilience <i>WeRobotics, Flying Labs</i>
16:00 – 16:15	Bridging the technology gap: geospatial tools and applications <i>DJI</i>
16:15 – 17:00	Panel: Transforming emerging barriers into enablers: sustainable funding and insurance for DRM interventions <i>Donor institutions, SANTAM, ITOO, Standard Bank, Government representative</i>
17:00 – 17:15	Day 1 recap and closing remarks
17:15	<b><i>End of Day 1</i></b>

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### Day 2 – Tuesday, November 4, 2025 – Radisson Blu Hotel, Umhlanga

08:30 – 09:00	Arrival, Registration & Badge collection
09:00 – 09:15	Sponsor's address: Opportunities for financing resilient regional geospatial infrastructure
09:15 – 10:15	Panel: Beyond natural disasters: a focus on geospatial interventions for man-made disasters <i>Fire department, NDMAs, Provincial governments, Local governments</i>
10:15 – 10:30	Keynote address: Disasters in Space and time – <i>Space Agency</i>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Coffee &amp; Tea break</b>
11:00 – 11:15	User experience presentation: Geospatial data shaping locally-led humanitarian interventions <i>ECHO – WFP</i>
11:15 – 11:30	User experience presentation: Geospatial data shaping locally-led humanitarian interventions <i>South African Red Cross</i>
11:30 – 12:30	Panel: Scaling regionally: harmonizing regulations, standards & certification <i>CAAs, regulators, WeRobotics, Ministry of Defense, User experience representatives</i>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30 – 14:45	Panel (option 1): Beyond natural disasters: a focus on geospatial interventions for man-made disasters <i>-Fire department, NDMAs, provincial and local governments</i> Panel (option 2): Inclusive approaches for locally-led geospatial interventions for DRM <i>-Flying Labs, AI practitioner, drone pilot, GIS expert</i>
14:30 – 14:45	User experience presentation: Best practices and lessons learned from Drones, AI and GIS applications in DRM <i>Flying Labs/NDMA/SHOC</i>
14:45 – 15:00	Technical presentation: GIS Solutions for DRM <i>Esri</i>
15:00 – 15:45	Panel: Building sustainable cities and communities through the Power of Local – SDG 11 – <i>Flying Labs</i>
15:45 – 16:15	<b>Coffee &amp; Tea Break</b>

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16:15 – 16:30	User experience presentation: Industry-specific DRM interventions: mining <i>EXXARO</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Technical presentations: Bridging the technology gap <i>IAS, Autnosky, Cloudline</i>
17:00 – 17:15	Preparation for Gala dinner
17:15 – 20:00	<b><i>Gala Dinner: Networking and speech by MEC for Disaster in KwaZulu-Natal</i></b>

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### Day 3 – Wednesday, November 5, 2025 – Radisson Blu Hotel, Umhlanga

#### **Option 1: Hands-on GIS Workshop (*Limited capacity – maximum 50 participants*)**

08:30 – 09:00	Arrival & Registration
09:00 – 10:00	ArcGIS Online Collaboration set up
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee & tea break
10:30 – 12:30	ArcGIS hands-on session
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 – 15:00	Co-creation session and next steps
15:00	End of workshop
15:00 – 16:30	Individual follow-up discussions

#### **Option 2: Co-creation session and Drone Demonstrations**

08:30 – 09:00	Arrival & Registration
09:00 – 11:00	Co-creation session: The value of data
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee & tea break
11:00 – 12:00	Departure to the Drone Demonstrations Site
12:30 – 16:00	Drone Demonstrations
16:00	End of day 3