



Madagascar: Tropical Cyclone Gezani, February 2026, with our partner the Southern African Development Community (SADC) at the operational centre in Toamasina.

Appointment of Chair of the Board of Trustees

August 2026

About MapAction

MapAction knows that providing geospatial and data expertise in humanitarian situations can greatly improve outcomes for the people affected.

For more than 20 years, in 150+ humanitarian emergencies in 80 countries as well as many hundreds of disaster preparedness events, MapAction has provided disaster response agencies with the mapping, geospatial and data capabilities necessary to make the vital decisions to support vast numbers of people.

What we do

MapAction is a non-profit organisation collaborating with partners around the world to prepare for and respond to humanitarian emergencies. We strive to ensure global, regional, national and local disaster management and humanitarian agencies have access to the maps, visualised data, information and analysis that they need to make key decisions, at the right times, to save lives and reduce suffering.

People already vulnerable to humanitarian crises face the greatest threats from a changing climate, which compounds existing challenges. MapAction works to ensure that they, and the agencies and governments who support them, have access in critical moments, to the information and analysis that they need.

In a humanitarian crisis response coordinators need to quickly understand

who is most affected, where they are, what those people need, how to provide it and much more besides. The picture changes by the hour, and the faster and more effectively the incoming data can be mapped and visualised, to get a clearer understanding of the transformed landscape, the more efficient and targeted the response can be.

MapAction does this by providing response partners with geospatial, mapping and data expertise and skills. A team of 13 staff and circa 70 expert volunteers, provide both skills and capacity development and direct crisis support to partners.

Many professionals want to donate their energy and skills to help. MapAction is the bridge which enables them to do so effectively.



Jamaica: Hurricane Melissa 2025 meeting Haiti Air Ambulance team (now RRI) who we've subsequently partnered with. Discussing distribution of Starlink.

About MapAction

Our response team

Our full team consists of up to 80 geospatial and data experts, working in some of the world's leading organisations, and released to support MapAction's work. Combining the passion of volunteerism with the rigour and reliability of professional standards, the 'MapAction spirit' is famous in the humanitarian response sector.

Innovation

MapAction has been innovating since it first introduced digital situation maps to humanitarian emergency response. Driven by the breadth of professional

experience and expertise of our volunteers, drawn from across myriad employment sectors, MapAction brings together data scientists, software developers, geospatial experts and data engineers to work all-year-round on new and exciting solutions to strengthen global disaster preparedness, response and resilience.

Every year we bring together our team and partners to strengthen our disaster preparedness in a simulation event.

The work we do in emergency response feeds into our longer-term goals to support disaster preparedness, including anticipatory action.



Team Training, July 2026. The MapAction Forum with invited partners.

About MapAction

Our vision

A world where people vulnerable to humanitarian emergencies are more resilient and those assisting them are more effective through the use of technological advances in information management.

Our promise

We will apply the best geospatial technologies and our expertise to shine a light on tough humanitarian problems, providing critical insights that will save lives, protect, recover and strengthen livelihoods and promote human dignity.

We will serve international, regional and national humanitarian responders to the best of our abilities to enable them to provide the most effective response possible to save lives and reduce suffering.

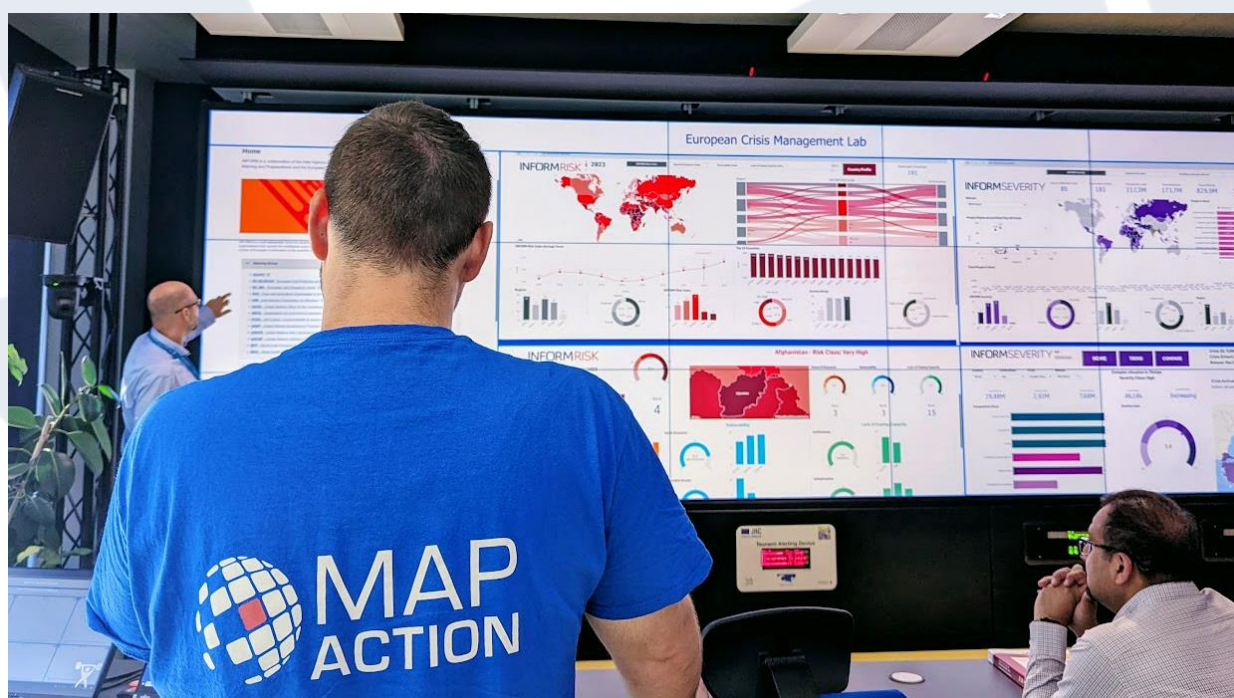
Why MapAction?

We freely share the knowledge we have acquired by teaching and training humanitarian coordinators to use maps and other geospatial products to help them make better decisions. We also help put in place the systems, resources and data required to build resilience to disasters and protect vulnerable communities.

Our funding

We are currently funded by grants from the governments of Germany and Switzerland, and by a range of networks, foundations, individuals and businesses, large and small, and via funding for the delivery of specific projects from a variety of funders and donors. Together we are making a difference.

More information about MapAction can be found [here](#).



2023 INFORM training at JRC's office (Ispra, Italy). That's the official moment MapAction was trained and became an INFORM operational partner.

About MapAction

Our values

We provide a unique service designed to make better humanitarian outcomes possible.

We have developed a unique human capacity to provide geospatial insight to decision-making in crises, anywhere in the world, and at 24 hours notice.

We don't make that claim lightly. We base it on over 20 years of experience and learning, carefully gleaned from attending over 150+ different humanitarian crises and supporting countless more. We base it on the feedback and testimonials of the very decision makers we exist to support. And we base it on the breadth of technical and humanitarian knowledge and experience that our team of 70+ highly trained members can apply to a situation.

Our distinctive service is extremely efficient and effective through being delivered by highly-trained technical professionals who donate their time and expertise on a volunteer basis.

MapAction is a signatory to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent and Non-Government Organisations' Code of Conduct for Disaster Relief, which seeks to ensure that aid and services are delivered on the basis of a set of principles that include those of humanity, impartiality, independence and neutrality.

We're committed to promoting diversity and inclusion within and beyond our organisation.

• **Volunteerism**

Volunteers are key to the way MapAction works, and we value them as leaders in our organisation, with the support and direction of our management team.

• **Independence**

MapAction maintains an independent status and is accountable to our membership, donors and service users regarding the outcome of our work. Whilst working collaboratively, MapAction will continue to retain this independence.

• **Continuous Innovation**

We always aim to be agile in our response, learning and organisational development through continuously evolving our approach and services, adapting to what is required by service users at any given time.

• **Professionalism**

MapAction is known for our reliability, professionalism, relevance and timeliness. It is something we strive to deliver in everything we do.

• **Collaboration**

MapAction partners with Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) and information management providers, as well as the disaster management community, donors and other organisations, wherever this adds value to the overall information management landscape. This will not compromise our independence.

• **Transparency**

We always seek to present ourselves and our work in the most transparent way possible.

About MapAction

Governance

MapAction is governed by an independent Board of Trustees that maintains strategic oversight and legal accountability for the organization's administration, finances, and humanitarian mission. As a registered UK charity and a company limited by guarantee, its governance structure operates strictly under UK charity law and financial regulations.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is led by the Chair and holds ultimate legal responsibility for MapAction, ensuring the charity remains solvent, well-run, and focused on its long-term strategic direction. The Board is currently comprised of the Chair and five

Trustees, several of whom are deployable volunteers for MapAction, ensuring the Board has both an understanding and lived experience of MapAction's core activity.

Management Team

MapAction's day-to-day operations are led by the CEO, Darren Dovey, supported by four Directors: Director of Development, Director of Humanitarian Operations, Director of Impact and Locally-Led Practice, and Director of GIS & Data Services.

The Management Team leads a small team of full time and part time staff who together provide direction and essential support to MapAction's professional volunteers.

Further information about the Management Team can be found [here](#).



Bolivian Republic of Venezuela: Earthquake, June 2026 - discussing the response with UNDAC and other operational partners in the OSOCC.

Chair of the Board of Trustees

About the role

The Chair of the Board of Trustees provides strategic leadership and direction to the Board, ensuring it fulfils its responsibilities for the governance, strategic direction and financial sustainability of the Charity. Working closely with the Chief Executive and the Trustees, the Chair will ensure the effective delivery of the Charity's mission and activities.

Role of the Chair

Strategic Leadership

- Lead the Board of Trustees, ensuring that each Trustee fulfils their responsibility for the effective governance of the Charity.
- Set strategic direction for the charity and monitor its delivery against targets
- Agree objectives and working relationship with the Chief Executive
- Identify the required knowledge, abilities and networks for the Board to govern effectively, and lead recruitment of trustees to fit
- Lead or oversee organisational change as necessary
- Working closely with the Treasurer and Chief Executive, ensure adequate risk management processes are in place, and address escalated risks should they arise.

External Relations

- Act as an ambassador for MapAction in partnership with the Chief Executive.
- Develop and maintain effective relationships with key external partners including the most strategic funders and operational partners.
- Represent MapAction at relevant external functions, meetings and events.
- Manage relationship with MapAction's patron(s) to ensure alignment and productive outcomes.

Relationship with the Chief Executive, staff and volunteers

- As necessary, lead the recruitment process for the Chief Executive. Establish a close and constructive working relationship with the Chief Executive and Executive Team, ensuring that they are accountable for achieving agreed strategic objectives.
- Maintain a detailed Schedule of Delegation to ensure clarity of responsibilities and limits of authority between the Board and the Chief Executive.
- Conduct an annual appraisal and remuneration review for the Chief Executive in consultation with members of the Board of Trustees.
- Maintain an approachable profile with executive staff and volunteers. Represent Board matters in internal communications and periodically visit training events.

Chair of the Board of Trustees

Role of the Chair (continued)

Board Meetings

- Chair meetings of the Board of Trustees effectively and efficiently, bringing impartiality and objectivity to discussions and the decision-making process, ensuring collective responsibility across all Trustees.
- Ensure that Trustees are fully engaged and that decisions are taken in the best, long-term interests of the Charity.
- Working with the Chief Executive, Treasurer and Board Secretary, ensure that Board meetings are clearly planned, meaningful and reflect the responsibilities of Trustees.
- Form and oversee Board sub-groups, (including but not only a Finance and Audit sub-group) with clear mandates to advance specific Board objectives.
- Monitor that decisions taken at meetings are implemented.

Person Specification

The successful candidate will be/have:

Essential

- A commitment to the effective delivery of humanitarian benefit.
- Evidence of successful leadership of senior executive teams and/or non-executive boards, including strategic development.
- A strong understanding of good governance, including the legal obligations of a UK company limited by guarantee and the specific rules relating

to charities set by the Charity Commission.

- A strong understanding of organisational risk management.
- Ability to identify and mobilise funding from corporate and philanthropic sources.
- Good financial acumen and the ability to interpret financial and management information.
- Strong networks and gravitas and the capability to influence at the highest level.
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to the role.
- Independent thought and judgement.
- An understanding of and commitment to the promotion of equality, diversity and inclusion.

Desirable

- Knowledge of and experience of working with (or in) the international development sector and/or humanitarian sector, at global or local levels.
- An informed understanding of the importance of real-time data in times of crisis.
- An understanding of Overseas Development Assistance funding actors and policy currents.
- Experience of the use of Geographic Information Systems for decision-making.
- Experience of volunteer organisations, and a view on what makes volunteering work.

Terms of Appointment

Time Commitment

The Board meets five times per year, including quarterly Board meetings and the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Chair (and Trustees) typically attend one or more training weekends (of six held each year).

The time commitment is anticipated to be up to 30 days per year. The Chair is appointed by the Board for an initial term of three years, with the option to renew for a further term. The role is voluntary and unremunerated, although reasonable expenses may be reimbursed in accordance with internal policies.

Application Process

MapAction is being supported by McLean Partnership on this appointment. For an informal and confidential discussion about the role, please contact Dr Graham Little via email at grahamlittle@mcleanpartnership.com.

Applications should consist of a CV and covering letter outlining your interest and motivation for the role, as well as highlighting your relevant skills and experience.

Completed applications should be submitted via email (at the above address) by **12 noon on Monday 31st August 2026**.

 **Jamaica: Hurricane Melissa**
Building Damage

Scan for latest maps

Settlements
● City
• Town
• Village
Administrative
— Parish
□ Communities

Damaged Buildings
0 - 30
31 - 100
101 - 200
201 - 400
401 - 862

Urban Area	Total Buildings	Damaged	%
Savanna-La-Mar	20485	9444	46%
Black River	3385	2225	66%
Santa Cruz	6957	1571	23%
Bethnal Town	3386	1360	40%
Cambridge Town	2696	1231	45%
Montego Bay	31615	7489	24%
Luca	5294	1392	27%

Map shows the building damage count per 3046m2. Data is generated from satellite imagery from ICEYE.

Data Sources
ICEYE, ODPEM, UNOCHA, OpenStreetMap, World Port Index, Our Airports

Map created by MapAction (05/11/2025)

MA023 v03

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by MapAction

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