



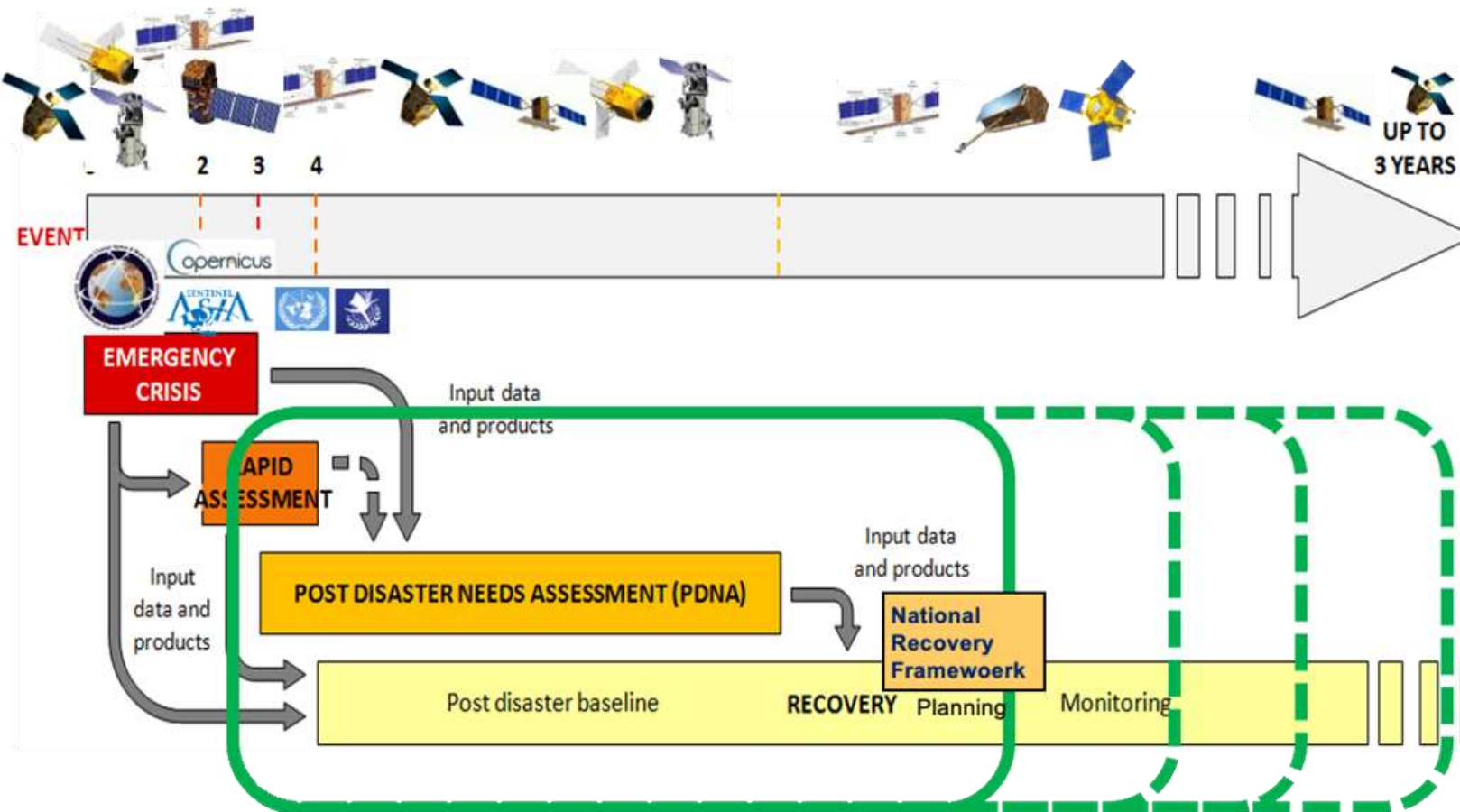
# THE RECOVERY OBSERVATORY

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A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN CEOS-EU-WORLD BANK-UNDP

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The **Recovery Observatory** fits into an institutional framework that goes from **pre-event situational awareness** to **National Disaster Recovery Frameworks**.

The RO uses a **flexible imaging** approach to cover both **wide areas** and **situational hotspots**, ensuring **information adapted to the needs of end users**.



# PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES AND LIMITATIONS

- RO products are for PDNA managers (ideally integrated into PDNA or PBRA report) and national recovery authorities
- Some products target early recovery (short-term), and others the National Disaster recovery Framework (mid-term)
- Limitations:
  - Requires rapid activation to produce products for PDNA;
  - Currently conducted on best efforts basis – need to consolidate funding sources (c. 50k per activation);



# Summary of RO Demo activations



Activation	Pros	Cons	Comments
<b>1. Beirut blaze (2020)</b>	Synthetic update of situation	Very small area not representative of typical activation	Coordination with Copernicus but no other added CEOS value
<b>2. Eta-Iota hurricanes (2020-21)</b>	Excellent. Multinational coordination. Innovative products (e.g. interferometry Sula Valley)	Request came months after events; no direct impact on early recovery	Demonstrated need for increased tripartite coordination
<b>3. Haiti (2021)</b>	Activation in days; results in PDNA only input for agriculture and environment	None	Excellent showcase Successful Capacity Building example
<b>4. Pakistan floods (2022)</b>	Excellent quality of CEOS products for two areas retained for Phase 1; strong interest in DRF products (agriculture)	Lack of coordination; evolving need analysis led to gaps in EO products; poor uptake in PDNA	Large events (Pakistan, Nepal EQ, ...), pose unique coordination challenges
<b>5. Libya floods (2023)</b>	Activation for WASH. Useful information in area where local access was challenging	Partial contribution due to late activation	Earlier activation would have allowed more comprehensive work



# ARMENIA MAY 2024 – LAST RO ACTIVATION TO DATE

- PDNA products over different AOIs:
  - Identification of debris along the Debed River (in red)
  - Flood simulation in Debed, Dzoraget and Aghstev valleys (in blue)



# POSSIBLE RO ACTIVATION FOR PAKISTAN FLOODS AUGUST 2025?

- Informal request from EU-FPI to support possible PDNA (government data collection already well underway)
- Exact request still TBD
- Will pose resourcing issue for value adding if confirmed – currently exploring new avenues for activation (e.g. ESA GDA, EU-FPI partial funding,...)





# PROPOSED COLLABORATION WITH INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SPACE AND MAJOR DISASTERS





# OBJECTIVE

INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SPACE & MAJOR DISASTERS SATELLITE DATA TO SUPPORT DISASTER RESPONSE WORLDWIDE

## **Demonstrate a joint Charter-Recovery Observatory activation for up to 2 activations in 2026:**

- Requested by Tripartite Partner and CEOS RO lead (and agreed by Charter Sec);
- Grant access to Charter imagery during event;
- Prolong activation by up to two months;
- Consider requests for imagery in new AOIs (within predetermined quota);
- Coordinate between Charter PM and RO Liaison Officer;
- Value adding resources coordinated through RO.





# RO PAST ACTIVATION ANALYSIS OUTCOME

INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SPACE & MAJOR DISASTERS SATELLITE DATA TO SUPPORT DISASTER RESPONSE WORLDWIDE

## 4 recent Charter activations analysed:

Earthquake in Myanmar (03/2025)	Flood in Brazil (04/2024)	Flood in Armenia (05/2024)	Hurricane Beryl in Dominican Republic (07/2024)
Strongest PDNA relevance. Activations remained open for an extended period <b>&gt;&gt; Additional acquisitions may not be necessary to cover the recovery, as existing imagery can adequately support RO needs</b>	The Charter activation remained open for a 2-week window <b>&gt;&gt; Additional data acquisitions required for RO needs</b>	Low-impact event with only local needs for recovery <b>&gt;&gt; Low interest for recovery and the RO</b>	

- Large disparities in number of VAPs produced between the analysed activations.
- A RO relevance depends on **volume & type of products, areas imaged and types of data collected**.
- Charter **data policy restricts re-use** beyond immediate response.
- **Extended licensing would be required for recovery applications**. At the moment this limits ability to integrate into PDNAs and recovery planning.

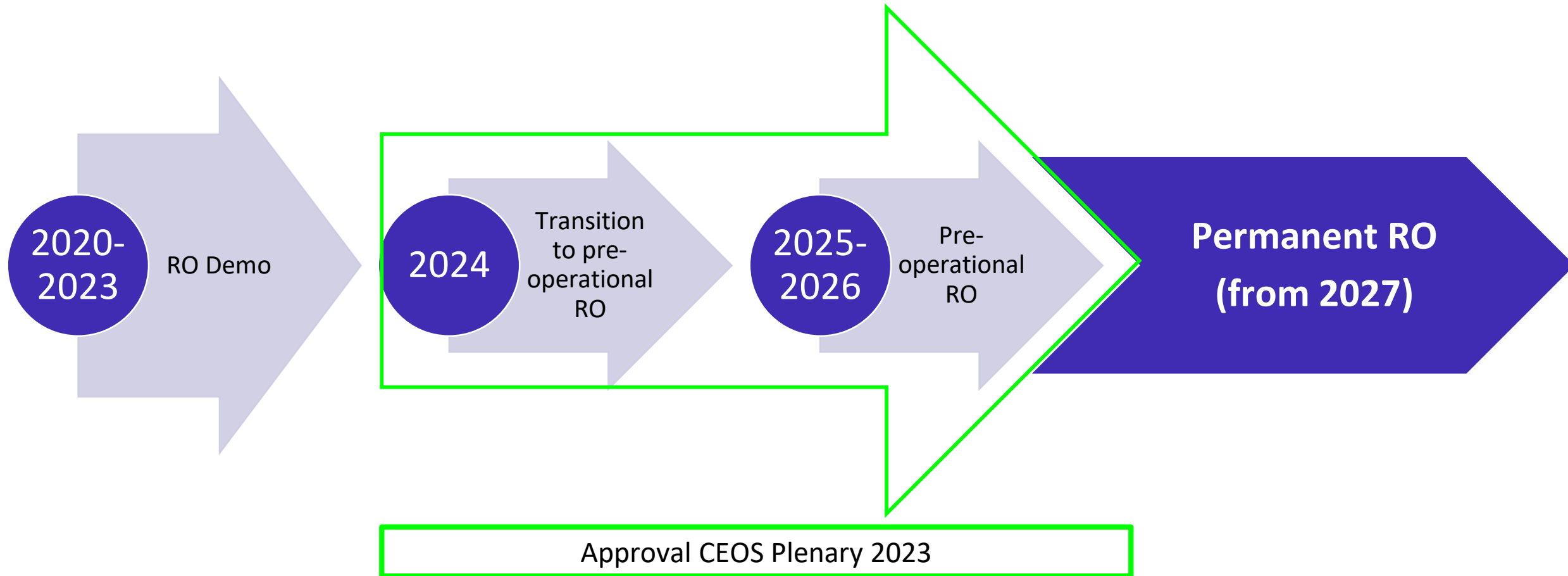


# POTENTIAL COLLABORATION - BENEFITS

INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SPACE & MAJOR DISASTERS SATELLITE DATA TO SUPPORT DISASTER RESPONSE WORLDWIDE

- **Avoid duplications in data provision and take advantage of complementarities** that can be better exploited (cf Copernicus model)
- **Highlight gaps, overlaps, and opportunities** for more **systematic collaboration**
- Test the Charter's potential to provide a **more complete solution that addresses longer-term challenges**, such as damage assessment, and reconstruction planning
- **Expanding beyond the response phase** into recovery could significantly **enhance the Charter's value for local end users (local governments, NGOs...)**
- **Raise awareness** among a wider set of end users **about the Charter's capabilities** and encourage **broader and sustained use of the Charter**.

# RO transition from CEOS-led to Recovery Stakeholder-led



# CONCLUSIONS

- Promising new collaboration with Charter put forward, but resourcing issues remain;
  - 2026: inquire about flexible funding for VAPs?
- Structural challenges for the tripartite partners:
  - Changes in EU-FPI leadership bring uncertainty for next steps in 2026 → awaiting the new leadership for a clear EU vision for 2026 and beyond;
  - UN @ 80 process and severe cuts within UN system make large UNDP role unclear and unlikely;
  - Discussions continuing with GFDRR Digital Earth Partnership, but focus from GFDRR is increasingly on early warning, with Recovery relying almost exclusively on GRADE.