

GDACS (MHEWS) API quick start

GDACS data are free and available through its APIs. You can refer to the swagger page:

<https://www.gdacs.org/gdacsapi/swagger/index.html>

Alternatively, the webpage at https://www.gdacs.org/feed_reference.aspx provides the access to the most requested xml data. The basic information is the same but in a different format and schema.

The API provides **geospatial data** too. The KML format is available in bulk only for the events of the last 4 days: <http://www.gdacs.org/kml.aspx>

For a single event, use the link available at the resources page of the event, filtered by kml, e.g.

<https://www.gdacs.org/resources.aspx?eventid=1001067&eventtype=TC>

Examples

For custom extraction the webAPI is available, returning the data in geoJSON format:

www.gdacs.org/gdacsapi/api/Events/geteventlist/SEARCH

For example:

- get the red earthquakes in a 2 years interval (few EQ RED by year):
<https://www.gdacs.org/gdacsapi/api/events/geteventlist/SEARCH?eventlist=EQ&fromdate=2021-10-11&todate=2023-10-11&alertlevel=red>
- get the orange and red cyclones and earthquakes between two custom dates:
<https://www.gdacs.org/gdacsapi/api/events/geteventlist/SEARCH?eventlist=EQ;TC&fromdate=2022-04-11&todate=2023-10-11&alertlevel=red;orange>
- get the all floods in the last 6 month
<https://www.gdacs.org/gdacsapi/api/events/geteventlist/SEARCH?eventlist=FL&fromdate=2023-04-11&todate=2023-10-11&alertlevel=reg;orange;green>

For each event extracted is possible to access the sublevel information.

Terms of use

We only request to acknowledge the source as “Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System, GDACS”, but please read the disclaimer at

https://www.gdacs.org/documents/2025/GDACS_Terms_of_use_Mar_25.pdf.

Currently, the **API provides no more than 100 records at once**, ordered by date ("*todate*" property), so the suggestion is to set more selective search parameters, or to make multiple queries by specifying an additional parameter "*pagenumber*", to get the next 100 events (if available according to the search criteria). This parameter allows access to multiple blocks of 100 records each (or lower if "*pagesize*" parameter is specified too), in chronological order.

We suggest checking the methods that return a collection, considering the cache stored by GDACS any time there is a new update:

<https://www.gdacs.org/gdacsapi/api/events/geteventlist/events4app>

or [https://www.gdacs.org/gdacsapi/api/events/geteventlist/SEARCH?\[...\]](https://www.gdacs.org/gdacsapi/api/events/geteventlist/SEARCH?[...])

The user may save a collection and then (programmatically) check for updates, e.g. by comparing the "*datetime*" property, before calling the GDACS API again.

Contacts

For enquiries and technical issues about the use of the API the contact form is found at:

<https://www.gdacs.org/About/contactus.aspx>

