

Twentieth Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-20)

Sentinel Asia

Proposed Outline

1. The scope /objectives of Sentinel Asia

The Sentinel Asia (SA) was established in 2005 as a collaboration between space agencies and disaster management agencies under the APRSAF initiative, applying remote sensing and Web-GIS technology to assist disaster management in the Asia-Pacific region. A step-by-step approach for the implementation of SA was adopted. Through Step1 (2006-2007), implementation of an initial backbone SA data dissemination system was established, as a pilot project to showcase the value and impact of technology using standard internet dissemination systems. Subsequently, Step2 (2008-2012) concentrated on the expansion of the system with additional member countries and their agencies, and the expansion of the dissemination backbone with new satellite communication systems, such as the wideband Internetworking Engineering Test and Demonstration Satellite (WINDS) of JAXA, and additional nodes and satellite data sources. The final implementation step “Step3”, launched in January 2013, will oversee consolidation activities to establish a comprehensive, operational and enduring disaster management support system in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly focusing on:

- regional cooperation to promote utilization of Sentinel Asia by end-users and make success stories, and its expansion to other countries
- utilizing many and varied satellites, such as earth observation, communication and navigation satellites
- better covering the entire disaster management cycle: the mitigation/preparedness phase and recovery phase as well as response phase
- cooperation with other activities about disaster management

At APRSAF-20, it will be provided with Step3 implementation status including introduction of new activities.

2. The result of Sentinel Asia activities at APRSAF-19

At APRSAF-19, held in Kuala Lumpur in December 2012, several new recommendations on SA were adopted, which declared the successful completion of SA Step2, in recognition of achieving the goals and declared the launch of the final phase of SA in 2013. The goal of Step3 is to further expand SA's activities to a wider regional reach, to better cover the entire disaster management cycle (the mitigation/preparedness phase, response phase and recovery phase), faster delivery of disaster information products to end-users, and utilizing many and varied satellites, such as earth observation, communication and navigation satellites, with further operational collaboration and human networking by the Joint Project Team.

3. The Draft of the Agenda

- 1) Report on Step3 implementation status including introduction of new activities, based on the result of the Joint Project Team Meeting (JPTM) to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 27-29 November 2013.
- 2) On the occasion of frequent catastrophic disasters in the Asia-Pacific region, e.g. recent Typhoon Haiyan, JAXA will propose to evolve Sentinel Asia furthermore and establish a task force team for this study.