

The Space Education and Awareness in Cambodia

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Introduction

- The space technology applications have been recently introduced but increasingly participated by various projects, especially among foreign funded projects.
- The lack of budget and human resources are the keys for the issues for development of space technology applications in Cambodia.

The Space Education and Awareness

- Space education is not widely introduced in Cambodia yet.
- There is no school text books on space have been introduced yet.
- There is only few universities that just recently introduced GIS, Remote Sensing and related courses in their curriculum.
- Most of space educations were took place in form of short-term training courses and workshops.
- Very few Cambodians have been taken degree courses in space and related fields.

The Space Education- Activities in 2005

- JAXA/AIT visit with major Cambodian space users agencies
- The meeting has been informed on up coming ALOS satellite and its benefits, discussed on major activities undertaken, strength and weaknesses in relation to the use of space technology applications.
- APRSAF Workshop on disaster reduction and management in MACRES, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The Space Education- Activities in 2005 (Continue)

- JAXA/AIT Mini-Project on Land Use Planning and Resource Management
 - Successfully completed, very good project as it has been carried out in both oversea and in-country with full supports.
 - Knowledge and experiences have been transferred, participants are confidence to apply of what they have learned.

The Space Education- Activities in 2005 (Continue)

Preparation of tele-education in GIS/RS through JICA office in Phnom Penh; and

Various in-country and oversea trainings/meetings/conferences (eg in Lao PDR, Indonesia, etc.) have been conducted and exchanged experiences in space related activities.

The Water Boosted Rocket Competition

Efforts have been spent, lesson learns are recorded

Difficulties:

Awareness on competition very limited among decision makers;

Inter-ministry procedures very slow;

Lack of financial support to carried the competition;

Lack of technical materials on water boosted rocket development

Suggestions

- Space education and awareness such as Water Boosted Rocket should continue
- The Results of competition should be publicly broadcast via National TV Channel or at the school
- Additional financial supports must be considered for less developed countries

The Problems in Space Education and Awareness

- Experienced in the past, many of our trainees returned from short-term training courses, few months later with lack of continuity, they have forgotten mostly from what they have learned.
- The lack of software, hardware and data of which they used to work with during the abroad training are the major causes of problems.
- The well trained staff is more likely leaving for another project due to the highly competitive market from International Organizations.
- Lack of education materials in our native language.

Propose Activities

- Provide training as a package:
 - identify committed participants, provide training on specific relevant subject, up on return provide with necessary software, hardware and data that can be apply in their home country including the follow-up supports for certain period.
- The selection of subject must be practical and applicable to the local conditions taking consideration the availability of local knowledge and capability of using it.

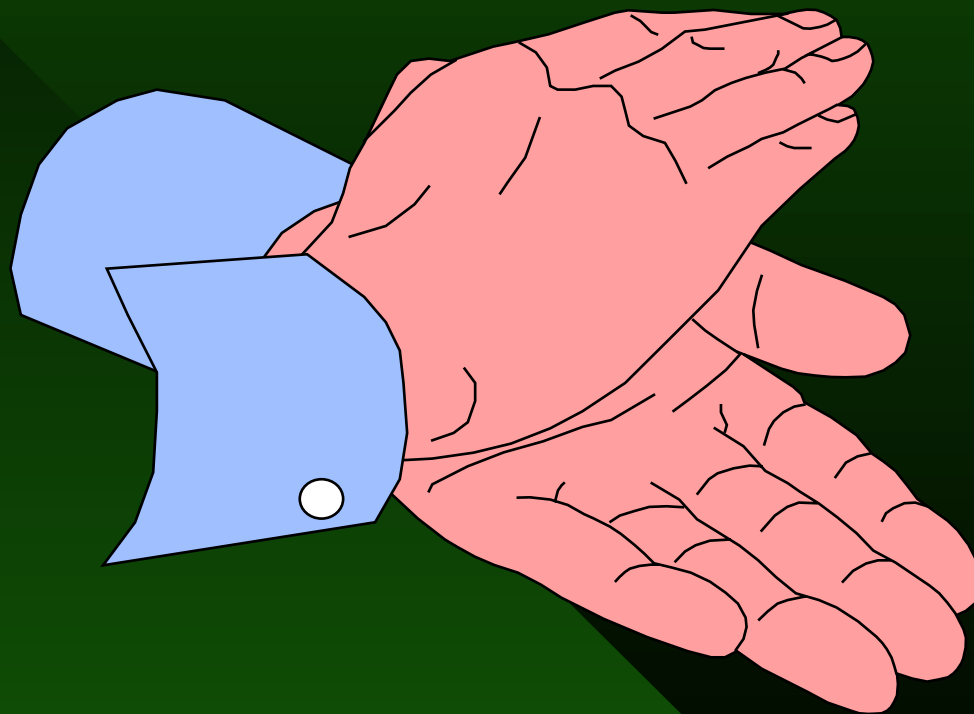
Propose Activities

- The showcase or demo project at appropriate time and subject
- For example, the demo project could take the advantage when the disaster happened.
- The support of such demo projects are very much needed and efficiently introducing the potential of space applications among policy makers.

Propose Activities

- Regular study tour or visit to space technology centers in the region
- Make available space education materials in Khmer language
- Conduct on-site workshop with practical application in appropriate time and subject.

Thank You !



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