The 26th Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-26)

SAFE (Space Applications For Environment)

Concept Note

1. Scope and Objectives of SAFE Activities

SAFE (Space Applications For Environment) is a voluntary initiative for environmental monitoring that was endorsed at APRSAF-15. Environmental monitoring is an important activity in addressing climate change, which has a strong influence not only on agriculture and water resources but also on natural disasters. SAFE has been contributing to the development of space applications for agriculture and water resources for the past 10 years.

Since APRSAF-24 in 2017, a SAFE Evolution discussion has been conducted to enhance multilateral collaboration from bilateral collaboration. The conclusion of SAFE Evolution will be reported to show the new SAFE framework for space applications. Best practices and knowledge in the workshop will be reported in the SAWG to encourage the promotion of space applications in the Asia-Pacific region.

In 2019, a SAFE workshop was held at VNSC (CEOS chair 2019) and SAFE Agromet Project (proponent agencies LAPAN and MoA) training was conducted at GISTDA supported by the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF). These activities will be reported to participants.

1) SAFE Workshop

The SAFE workshop will be held on Day 0 of the SAWG (November 25, 2019). As an evolution of the SAFE initiative, the new SAFE Terms of Reference (TOR) will be enacted to promote APRSAF active participation in regional, multi-country and international cooperation. The revision of the TOR has been made for the effective implementation of Earth observation data to resolve some of the common regional issues regarding agriculture and water resource management, and for knowledge transfer and capacity building in the Asia-Pacific region, through joint management by space agencies (including ISRO, GISDTA, and JAXA and others) as well as through cooperation with international organizations and donor organizations. During this workshop, the current status of SAFE activities will be reported and discussed to share successful achievements and knowledge. For discussion of potential new SAFE projects, best practices of space applications in the field of agriculture and water resources, which are strongly influenced by climate change, will be reported to promote social implementation of space applications and resolve environmental issues in the Asia-Pacific region.

2) SAFE Initiative Report in the SAWG

The SAFE secretariat will report on the status of and updates to SAFE activities and the completion of SAFE Evolution on Day 2 of the Space Applications Working Group (SAWG) (November 27, 2019). Shared
successful achievements and knowledge in the SAFE workshop will be reported in the SAWG to encourage promote space applications in the Asia-Pacific region.

3) Announcement of the next SAFE Workshop
The SAFE secretariat will announce the date of the next SAFE Workshop in 2020.

2. Result of SAFE Activities in APRSAF-25

Joint Statement of APRSAF-25 related to SAFE is as follow:

- We welcome the advancement of SAFE activities into a new framework based on the cooperative relationships between and among participating space agencies, as well as, regional and international organizations such as the ASEAN. We expect to promote the new SAFE projects such as crop forecast and harvest by using space technology.

3. Draft Agenda

SAFE Workshop
1) Review of the outcome for 2019 – SAFE workshop at VNSC, CEOS 2019, JAIF support.
2) SAFE Executive Board report on the new TOR
3) Best practices of environmental monitoring by using space applications and discussion about potential new SAFE projects.
4) Reports on current activities
   a. Smoke Haze Monitoring in Indonesia (Indonesia) [ongoing]
   b. Promotion of rice-planted areas and production estimation using space-based technologies (Cambodia) [follow-up]
   c. Agromet project [ongoing]
   d. Rice Crop Monitoring project [ongoing]

SAFE Initiative Report in SAWG
1) Results of executive board meeting and completed SAFE Evolution
2) Review of the SAFE Workshop on Day 0
3) Reports on current activities and successful achievements

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