



ADRC Highlights

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➤ JAXA and ADRC Announce Launch of "Sentinel Asia"

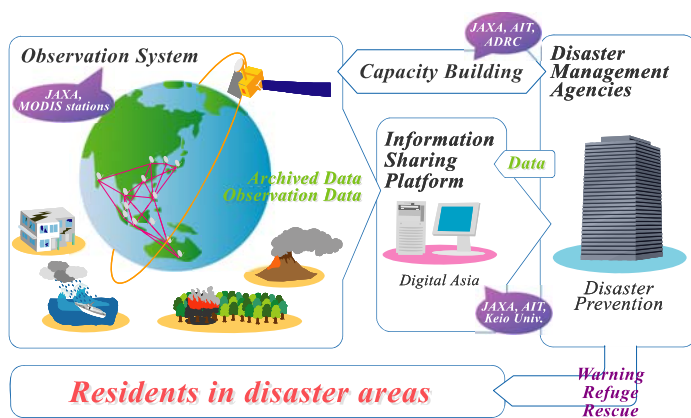
In this disaster prone-world, significant attention is being given to the use of satellites as communication tools for ascertaining the situation of areas affected by disasters and for connecting those areas with disaster management agencies during major disasters.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) announced on 24 October 2006 the launch of Sentinel Asia, a voluntary initiative for establishing a Disaster Management Support System for the Asia-Pacific Region led by the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF).

Sentinel Asia is being established on a voluntary and best-efforts basis, and is aimed at (1) creating a society that places the highest priority on human safety using information-communication technologies and space technologies, (2) improving disaster preparedness, and the speed and accuracy of early warning systems, and (3) minimizing the number of victims and the social and economic losses caused by natural disasters.

The space agencies of the Sentinel Asia Joint Project Team (JPT) and ADRC member countries are eligible to request disaster observation satellite data and images obtained by ALOS (Advanced Land Observing Satellite, JAXA) and other available resources after major disasters. The observation results will be open to the public through the Internet and the raw data can be provided to the organizations that request it.

The overall flow of how Sentinel Asia works is illustrated as follows.



For more information on Sentinel Asia, please visit the JAXA website (<http://dmss.tksc.jaxa.jp/sentinel/>), or

contact Senior Researcher Mr. Kenpei Kojika (kojika@adrc.or.jp).

➤ Introduction of Mr. Ryo Saito, Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd.

Mr. Ryo Saito, Geomatics Division of Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd., has been with us at the ADRC office since last October. Mr.



Saito works to promote the Sentinel Asia project that has been recently launched by JAXA and the ADRC. He has been actively communicating with the ADRC member countries to explain the benefits of this project to them. The ADRC will continue to advance this project in close collaboration with Mr. Saito.

➤ International Forum on Tsunamis and Earthquakes will be held on 15-16 January 2007 in Kobe, Hyogo

The International Forum on Tsunamis and Earthquakes: Progress on the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and Recovery from Tsunamis and Earthquakes will be held on 15-16 January 2007 in Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture. The event is being co-organized by the ADRC, International Recovery Platform (IRP) Kobe, the Government of Japan, the Hyogo Prefectural Government, and UN partners. Scheduled during the time frame of the 2nd anniversary of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) and the Indian Ocean Tsunami, and the 12th anniversary of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake that occurred in 1995, the Forum aims to help participants learn from the major disasters of the past and to contribute to the implementation of the HFA.

If you are interested in participating in this Forum, please email your name, organization, job title and phone/fax number to irp-event@recoveryplatform.org by 28 December 2006.

More information on this Forum is available on the IRP website (<http://www.recoveryplatform.org>).

If you have comments or questions regarding this newsletter, please contact the ADRC.

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