

Concept Note

Title	Sentinel Asia: Disaster Management using ICT and Space Technology in the Pacific
Organisation(s):	Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
Theme:	Theme 5: Emergency Communications and Disaster Relief / Climate Change
Speaking Duration:	15 Minutes
Background and Justification:	The Sentinel Asia (SA) initiative was established by Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF) in 2005, applying remote sensing and Web-GIS technology to assist disaster management in the Asia-Pacific region. SA is a collaborative effort between space agencies and disaster management agencies in our region, and SA is a voluntary initiative among these agencies to share disaster information in near-real-time. The members of SA are 51 organizations from 20 countries and 8 international organizations.
Objectives:	SA aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve safety in society through the use of ICT and space technology. • Improve speed and accuracy of disaster preparedness and early warning. • Minimize the number of victims and social / economic losses.
Scope:	The main activities of SA are as follows : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency observation in case of major disasters by Earth observation satellites based on the request from members. • Wildfire monitoring and flood monitoring. • Capacity building for utilization of satellite images for disaster management.
Expected Outcome:	The national disaster related agencies and ICT authorities associated with the SA project would be able to access the satellite based information products for disaster management available through the SA initiative and get support from the SA project team. This will be very useful for national and regional disaster management activities.
Potential Partners:	JAXA is in the process of identifying potential partners located in the Pacific Island countries to join the SA initiative. National Disaster Management Authorities seeking for technical capacity building in analysis of satellite images provided by the SA would benefit from the initiative.
Project Timescale:	SA adopts a step-by-step approach to enhance the activities mentioned above. The first phase of SA, Step-1 started in 2006 with the establishment of a disaster information sharing system, and finished at the end of 2007 with the successful completion of its target activities.

	<p>The second phase, SA Step-2 from 2008 to 2012 will address the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing the number of participating satellites.• Improving the accessibility to information through various means including WINDS (Wideband InterNetworking engineering test and Demonstration Satellite).• Enhancing data analysis activity in order to provide easily comprehensible information.• Corresponding to more types of disasters• Expanding the number of users.• Enhancing the outreach and capacity building activities.
Budget (optional):	