

Twenty-first Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-21)

SA (Space Applications) Working Group Activities

Proposed Outline

1. Scope/Objectives of SAWG activities

Based on the recommendations at APRSAF-20 in Hanoi, where we confirmed the 20-years accomplishments of APRSAF and discussed further advancement of our activities, APRSAF WGs' structure have been reorganized. As a result, the Space Applications WG (SAWG) was formed to cover overall activities to utilize space capabilities, including those of the Earth observation, global navigation satellite systems (GNSS), and communication, for resolving critical social issues in the Asia-Pacific region. To that end, all end users, research institutions, government organizations, development assistance agencies, and space agencies need to work together to establish truly instrumental solutions, by using not only space technologies but also various ground segments including distributed observing networks and prediction models. Existing Initiatives, Sentinel Asia, Space Applications for Environment (SAFE), and Regional Readiness Review for Key Climate Missions (Climate R³), are considering their evolutions to contribute to the idea. At the next APRSAF-21 session in Tokyo, we would like to share and discuss the direction of this new WG, and recommend further steps to address the challenges in the Asia-Pacific region.

1) Sentinel Asia

The Sentinel Asia Initiative has been successfully operated by the contributions from many participating countries and agencies. To further expand the capability, a task force was organized and is examining its future development. Results will be presented and discussed at SAWG meeting.

2) SAFE

SAFE workshop will be held on Day-0 of SAWG, December 1, 2014. New proposal of SAFE prototype will be presented, reviewed by SAFE review board members and discussed to launch by participants of SAFE workshop. SAFE executors are going to report on the status of on-going prototype activities and the result of prototyping, which will be finishing at the APRSAF-21. Reports and discussions of SAFE updates will be made in the SAWG meeting.

3) Climate R³ and new direction

At the first SAWG meeting, Climate R³ will be archived. This initiative has played an important role in the coordination between data users and data providers in the area of climate monitoring. This has been achieved through dedicated workshops and research initiatives through the APRSAF. At the SAWG meeting, Climate R³ representatives will report on the achievements under this initiative and discuss potential new Earth Observation activities that will best serve the Asia-Pacific region. Topics for the new activities may include the utilization of meteorological satellite data.

4) Thematic sessions

At the new SAWG framework, we will select the fields of Disaster, Agriculture, and Forest monitoring as the most important social benefit areas in the Asia-Pacific region. We will try to focus on discussing these areas through thematic sessions. In these thematic sessions, participating countries are kindly invited to contribute by presenting their satellite data utilizations. Certainly, we do not intend to limit our discussions to those three areas, and presentations proposing new activities in SAWG, especially those are critical for participating countries, are also welcome. SAWG also appreciates the share of experience, results of regional cooperation on satellite data utilization, capacity building, and so forth.

**Please understand that we cannot provide time slots for all member countries because of the schedule. The co-chairs will lead the arrangements with the APRSAF secretariat.*

2. **Results of Earth Observation (EO) WG activities at APRSAF-20**

See attached: APRSAF-20 adopted recommendations.

3. **Draft agenda**

- 1) Opening session
- 2) Review of the last EOWG in Hanoi
- 3) New SAWG objectives and focus
- 4) Report and new direction of Initiatives
 - Sentinel Asia Initiative
 - SAFE Initiative
 - Climate R³ Initiative
- 5) Thematic sessions: Disaster, Agriculture, and Forest monitoring
- 6) Overall discussions and the way forward
- 7) Conclusions and recommendations of SAWG