About APRSAF

The Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF) is the largest space-related conference in the Asia-Pacific region, with participation of high level representatives from Space agencies, governmental bodies, international organizations, private companies, universities, and research institutes from over 40 countries and regions.

The 24th Session of Asia Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-24) annual meet is co-organized by the Department of Space / Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) during November 14-17, 2017 at Bengaluru, India. The theme of APRSAF-24 is “Space Technology for Enhanced Governance and Development”. The event is being held in Bengaluru after a gap of 10 years from the previous APRSAF meet in Bengaluru. (APRSAF 14 was held in Bangalore during November 2007)

Mr A.S. Kiran Kumar, Chairman, ISRO and Ms. Mami Oyama, from Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan are the General Co-chairs of APRSAF 24.
Message from General Co-chairs

Mr. A. S. Kiran Kumar  
Secretary, Department of Space (DOS) of India / Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

Ms. Mami Oyama  
Deputy Director General, Research and Development Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT)

Namaste!

The Department of Space (DOS)/Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) considers it a privilege and honor to invite you to the 24th session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-24), held under the theme “Space Technology for Enhanced Governance and Development,” which is scheduled to take place November 14-17, 2017, at the Sheraton Grand Bangalore Hotel at Brigade Gateway, Bengaluru, India. APRSAF-24 will be co-organized by the Department of Space / the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).

APRSAF-24 will bring together leading practitioners in the region as well as stakeholders and relevant entities actively involved in, or interested in, space endeavors and regional collaboration. The ISRO is focused on providing the requisite mechanisms for access to space-based systems with the goal of maximizing benefits to India in terms of the diverse applications of space technology. In 2015, the ISRO organized a national meeting in order to maximize the use of space technology in governance and development. This has resulted in bringing a better focus onto the use of space technology tools for decision-making by government departments. This will be separately demonstrated in a special session, which will benefit the region as well as help in realizing similar systems in the region.

This year, India launched the South Asia Satellite, which provides coverage over Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives (including India), Nepal, and Sri Lanka. This will provide space-based communications among neighboring countries. Such efforts by India are steps toward meeting the objectives of APRSAF and the expansion of space applications for socio-economic development in the Asia-Pacific Region.

This is the second time that India is hosting APRSAF, and we are confident we will provide the right environment for discovering opportunities for cooperation and collaboration. Future technologies will promise an exciting opportunity to adaptively address the issues of “remaining relevant and responsive to the requirements of global community” from space-based observations.

In this endeavor, I look forward to your active cooperation and support in all the diversified activities of APRSAF and extend a warm welcome to all of you in Bengaluru.

Dear APRSAF community members:

The 24th Session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF-24) will be held this November. APRSAF is a historic forum that has continued for more than 20 years since its launch in 1993, and it greatly contributes to the field of space development and utilization in the Asia-Pacific region. I feel very privileged to act as general co-chairperson of APRSAF-24.

The main theme of APRSAF-24 will be “Space Technology for Enhanced Governance and Development.” In recent years, global-scale issues such as natural disasters, global warming and climate change have become increasingly severe. Space technologies, such as monitoring and predictions utilizing satellite data, are effective tools in making policy decisions.

It is essential to tackle these issues in order to realize sustainable development, Sentinel Asia, which is one of APRSAF’s initiatives, is a good example of this main theme. Sentinel Asia is an international project in which 27 countries and regions are participating. Its aim is the management of natural disasters in the Asia-Pacific region by sharing the earth observation data gathered by several satellites. Sentinel Asia is producing tangible outcomes. For example, data obtained by ALOS-2 were utilized when a huge earthquake struck Nepal in 2015.

This theme is also related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that were adopted by the United Nations in 2015. JAXA is tackling the challenges that need to be overcome to achieve SDGs using space technology. For example, JAXA and its partners are working on a project aimed at flood prediction using rainfall data gathered by satellites and in-situ data.

Concerning international space exploration, another field for international cooperation, Japan will host the 2nd International Space Exploration Forum (ISEF2) on March 3, 2018. Japan is preparing for this important forum and is looking to make it an opportunity to construct new international cooperation at a time when various discussions are being held. I hope that many members from the APRSAF community will join ISEF2.

As general co-chairperson, I am greatly looking forward to discussing these issues with members from the Asia-Pacific region at APRSAF-24.
APRSAF Working Groups

APRSAF currently organizes four working groups—Space Applications, Space Technology, Space Environment Utilization, and Space Education—to share information about the activities and future plans of each country and region in these respective areas. APRSAF also supports the establishment of international projects as solutions for common issues, such as disaster management and environmental protection, so that participating parties will benefit from mutual cooperation.

The Space Applications Working Group (SAWG) discusses various space application topics that support socio-economic issues in the Asia-Pacific region, such as disaster management and environmental issues, through the use of space technology (Earth observation, communication, and navigation). The WG aims to approach regionally common issues while strengthening cooperation among space agencies, user government agencies, development aid agencies, and the private sector. As a result of the discussions in the WG, concrete international cooperative activities such as Sentinel Asia for disaster management (from 2005), and Space Applications For Environment (SAFE) for environment monitoring (from 2008) were launched. The Co-Chairs of SAWG for APRSAF 24 are Mr. Shantanu Bhatawdekar from ISRO and Mr. Kazuo Tachi from JAXA.

The Space Technology Working Group (STWG), evolved from the former Communication Satellite and Applications Working Group, was established to exchange information on space
technology and capacity building to meet needs from Asian countries desiring to acquire space technology. The WG aims to support space technology development in the Asia-Pacific region by active information exchange, cooperation seeking and capacity building opportunities discovery among experts from space agencies, academic institutions, and private sectors in the region.

The Co-chairs of STWG for APRSAF 24 are Dr. M Annadurai, Director, ISRO Satellite Centre and Mr. Ryoichi Imai from JAXA.

The Space Environment Utilization Working Group (SEUWG) was established as an opportunity for countries in the Asia-Pacific region to use the “Kibo” Japanese Experiment Module on the International Space Station (ISS/Kibo). For further utilization of the space environment, the WG shares needs and exchanges information on subjects related to the advantages and framework of using ISS/Kibo’s special function. Through discussion among the participating nations, the WG aims to contribute to building cooperative projects for the utilization of Kibo and to provide a variety of benefits for the Asia-Pacific region.

The Co-chairs of SEWG for APRSAF 24 are Dr. S. Seetha from ISRO and Mr. Fumiaki Tanigaki from JAXA.

The Space Education Working Group (SEWG), formerly known as the Space Education and Awareness Working Group, was established in 2001 for promoting space education activities including space topics and providing opportunities for space education. The SEWG is now performing its activities with the aim of: (i) effectively using space education materials to enhance education for young people; (ii) providing education and training opportunities for young people in space science and technology; and (iii) helping enhance
mutual understanding among countries in the region through exchange opportunities for young people.

The Co-chairs for SEWG for APRSAF 24 are Dr. A. Senthil Kumar from ISRO and Dr. Nozomu Sakuraba from JAXA.

**APRSAF 24 Programme Structure**

Annual meetings of APRSAF will consist of Working Group (WG) sessions and associated meetings and Plenary event wherein individual member countries and international agencies (working in Asia Pacific region) will get opportunities to present their activities and the plans. In addition, this year session (APRSAF-24) will have a few more sessions including: (i) Heads of Space Agencies Session to discuss on the contribution towards sustainable development goals (SDGs); (ii) Special Session on Space Exploration and (iii) Special Session on Space Policy.

The programme structure of APRSAF-24 comprises of Working Group Meetings on November 14 & 15th, 2017 followed by Plenary sessions on November 16th and 17th, 2017. Workshops on Space Policy, Space Applications for Environment (SAFE) and Kibo ABC are scheduled on 13th November 2017. A Water rocket competition event and Poster Competitions for students are also planned. Besides this, special evening sessions and side meetings are also a part of APRSAF 24. The detailed programme may be accessed in the APRSAF 24 website at www.aprsaf.org

**Heads of Space Agency Session**

A special session of Heads of Space Agencies is also planned on 17th November 2017 to discuss about the contribution and future possibilities of space related technologies to Sustainable Development Goals. Heads of Space Agencies of several counties including India (Mr. A. S. Kiran Kumar) are expected to participate in this important session. Ms. Chiaki Mukai, JAXA astronaut, (the first Japanese woman in space and the first Japanese citizen to have two spaceflights) and currently the Chair of Scientific and Technical Subcommittees of UN Committee On Peaceful Uses of Space (UN-COPUOS) is also expected to be present as Moderator of the session.
Growing Participation in APRSAF

Since its establishment in 1993, the annual sessions of APRSAF has witnessed increasing attendance of high-ranking officials at APRSAF events, indicating growing importance of APRSAF worldwide. The previous APRSAF held in Manila, Philippines had 576 participants from 44 organisations from 28 countries. The number of countries (line) and the number of participants (bar), over the years are given below graphically.
Snaps of earlier events
**Sponsorship Opportunities**

**“SILVER” SPONSORSHIP SCHEME** *(REVISED)*

**Event & Date:**  
APRSAF-24 annual meeting during November 14-17, 2017

**Venue:**  
Sheraton Grand Bangalore Hotel at Brigade Gateway

**Participants:**  
About 500 Scientists, Engineers and Policy Makers in the field of Space Technology and applications from 40 countries. In this, foreign delegates are expected to be about 200.

**Contribution Opportunities for the Sponsors:**

(a). Inclusion of Company Logo (Small size) in the final programme.

(b). Display of company Logo at the Lunch Place.

(c). Display of company's promotional video (3 to 5 minutes duration) at dinner place on 16th November 2017

(d). Distribution of company’s novelty goods on the registration desk.

(e). 1-page (A4 size) insertion on company information in the Registration bags.

(f). Complementary Exhibition Booth of 3m x 2m

**Sponsorship Amount**

Rs. 3,00,000
“GOLD” SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

Event & Date :
APRSAF-24 annual meeting during November 14-17, 2017

Venue:
Sheraton Grand Bangalore Hotel at Brigade Gateway

Participants:
About 500 Scientists, Engineers and Policy Makers in the field of Space Technology and applications from 40 countries. In this, foreign delegates are expected to be about 200.

Contribution Opportunities for the Sponsors:
(a). Inclusion of Company Logo (Mid size) in the program.
(b). Display of company Logo at the Lunch and Dinner Place.
(c). Display of company’s promotional video (5 minutes duration) and introductory talk by sponsorer at Dinner place on 16th November 2017.
(d). Distribution of company’s novelty goods on the registration desk.
(e). 2-page (A4 size) insertion on company information in the Registration bags.
(f). Complementary Exhibition Booth of 3m x 2m

Sponsorship Amount
Rs. 5,00,000