

Sentinel Asia: A space-based disaster management support in the Asia-Pacific region

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The Sentinel Asia (SA) is a voluntary initiative led by the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAP), established in 2005 as a collaboration between space agencies and disaster management agencies, applying remote sensing and Web-GIS technologies to assist disaster management in the Asia-Pacific region. It provides and shares disaster information in near-real-time across the Asia-Pacific region using Web-GIS platform (<https://sentinel-asia.org/>).

SA is promoted with cooperation amongst the space community (APRSAP), the international community (UNWFP, UNESCAP, UNOOSA, ASEAN, the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), and so on), and the disaster management community (the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) and its member organizations). To support the implementation of the SA project, a Joint Project Team (JPT) was organized. Membership in the JPT is open to all disaster prevention organizations and regional/international organizations that are prepared to contribute their experiences and technical capabilities and wish to participate in technical aspects of disaster information sharing activities. JPT consists of 111 organizations from 28 countries/region and international organizations.

JAXA is a secretariat of the JPT. In particular, space agencies in the Asia-Pacific region—the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), the National Applied Research Laboratories (NARLabs), the Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), Mohammad bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) and the Center for Remote Imaging, Sensing and Processing (CRISP) National University of Singapore—are supporting the SA's emergency observation of damaged areas by disasters.

SA has responded over 330 emergency requests from JPT and ADRS members since 2007. SA is promoting to make stronger cooperation with end-users used by satellite-based emergency mapping.

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