

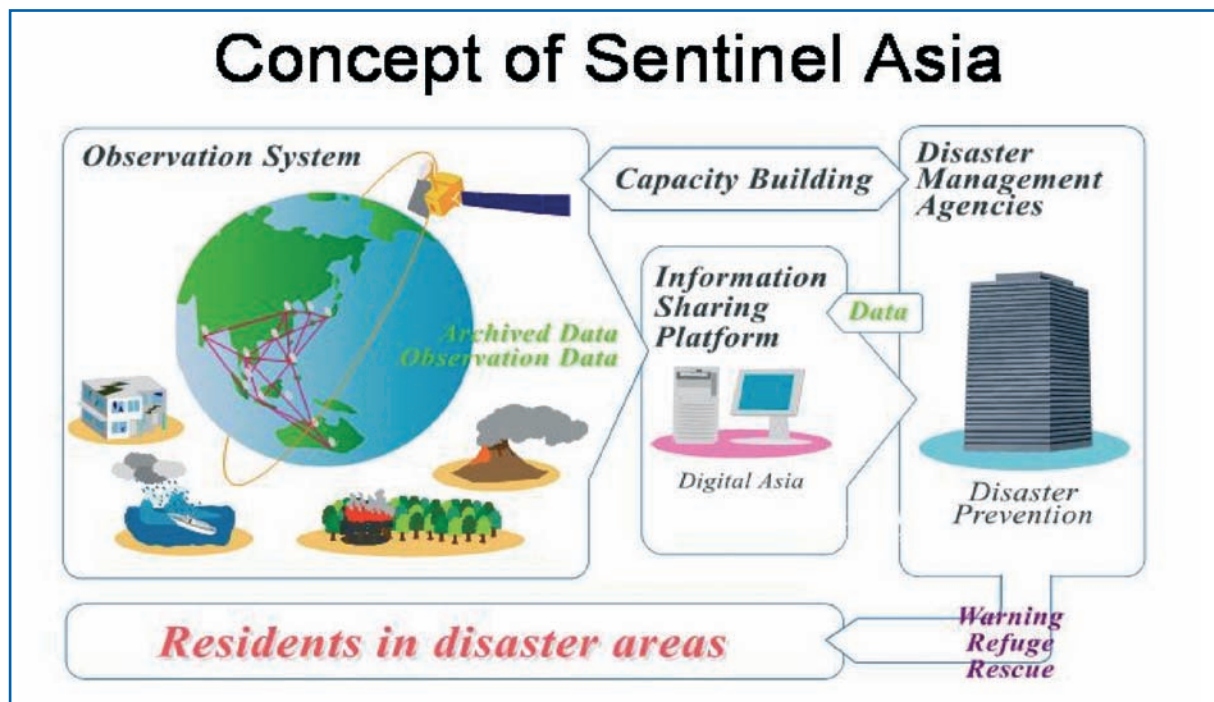
## Sentinel Asia

### Description

- The *Sentinel Asia (SA)* Project has been initiated by the *Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAF)* to share the disaster information across the Asia-Pacific region by integration of Satellite Remote Sensing and Web-GIS technologies, aiming at:
- Construction of a 'life-first society' by information and communication technology and Space technology
- Improvement of speed and accuracy for disaster preparedness and early warning
- Minimizing victims and social economic losses due to disasters.

The SA activities cover many aspects which are characterized as a regional GEOSS as follows:

- Emergency observation by earth observation satellites, and the information sharing through the Internet in case of major disasters in the Asia-Pacific region, which is enabled by the integration of independent systems managed by the members (a system of systems)
- Acceptance of observation requests for Asian countries to support disaster management
- Wildfire monitoring and Flood monitoring as a contribution to the disaster SBA
- Capacity building for utilization of satellite images for disaster management aiming to expand user engagement



### Added value

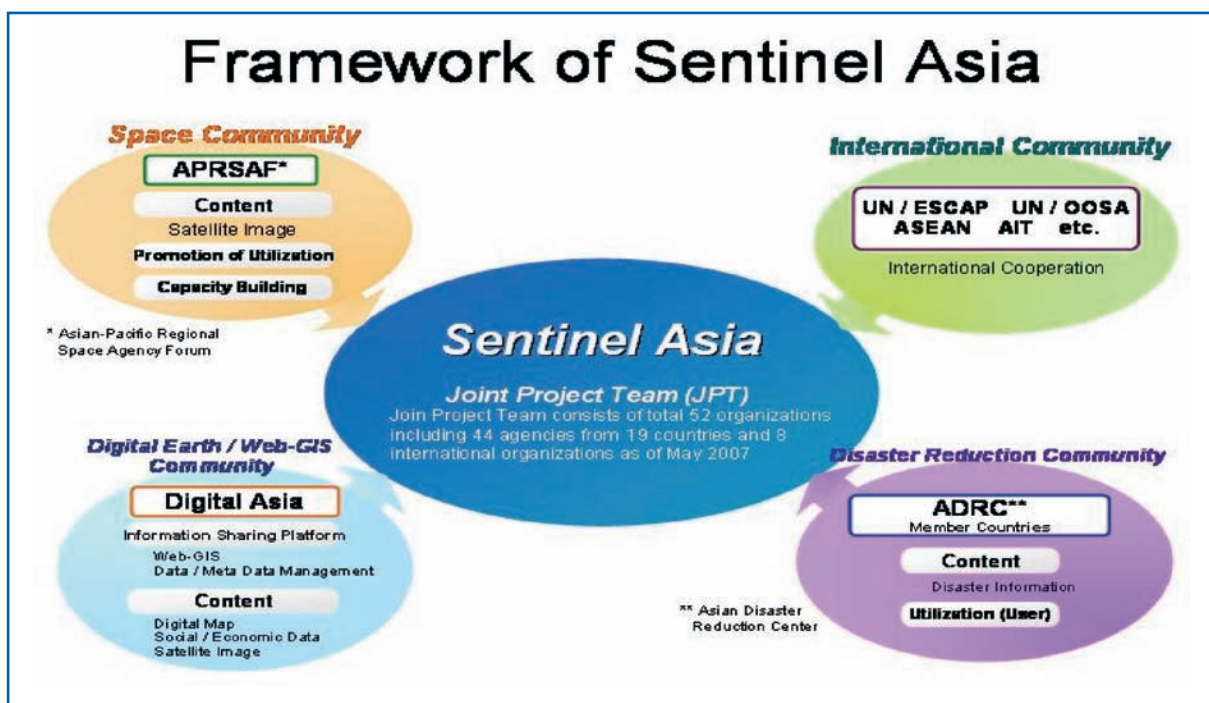
GEO provided major opportunities to SA to have links to the other GEO related projects like GEONET-Cast, GEO-Grid, etc. Taking the advantage of the opportunities, discussion has started to have a concrete cooperation with the projects. In the GEO context, SA was actually closed up in the *GEOSS Symposium on Integrated Observations for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific Region* held in Tokyo, Japan, on 11-12 Jan. 2007. Then through the *GEO Secretariat - SA* meeting on Wildfire monitoring and early warning in Geneva on 13 Feb. 2007, a direct connection between GEO and SA has been clarified, namely, SA is to be "an early success case of the establishment of a regional GEOSS".

## Relevance to GEO

SA will be one of the major components of GEOSS in Asian-Pacific region. Currently, as a regional program of GEOSS, SA is contributing to several GEO tasks (DI-06-08: Multi Hazard Approach Definition and Progressive Implementation, DI-06-09: Use of Satellites for Risk Management, DI-06-13: Global Fire Early Warning System, DI-07-01: Risk Management for Flood and CB-06-04: GEONETCast) in the very first stage, and in the near future SA would contribute more tasks not only for disaster but also Architecture and Data, and Capacity Building gradually.

## Participants

44 organizations from 19 countries and 8 international organizations including GEO members in Asia-Pacific region and participating organizations in GEO; Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, UNOOSA, UNESCO/ICHARM, etc.



## Main Participants in GEO task BI-07-02

Annie Simpson (US National Biological Information Infrastructure), Jeff Morissette (NASA), Jim Graham (Natural Resources Ecology Laboratory, Colorado State University), Michael Browne (IUCN Species Survival Commission's Invasive Species Specialist Group), Shawn Dalton and Pam Fuller (US Geological Survey's Florida Integrated Science Center), John Pickering (Discover Life), Brian Steves and Greg Ruiz (Smithsonian Institution).

## Current and Next Steps

Operations of SA have been commenced since October 2006 by opening its Web site. (<http://dmss.tksk.jaxa.jp/sentinel>) SA activities will be reinforced toward the next step from 2008 through STEP 1 (2006-2007).