



ADRC Highlights Vol.60

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Biweekly News

December 2, 2002

➤ UN Regional Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Disaster Management

The United Nations Regional Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Disaster Management for Asia and the Pacific, organized by UNESCAP and UNOOSA, was held in Bangkok from the 11th to the 15th of November 2002. Over 100 professionals from international organizations who are satellite holders, data providers, and end-users in 40 countries participated. Multifaceted presentations and discussions were conducted under the theme of utilizing satellite technology for disaster management.

As a follow up to the workshop held in Beijing in June this year (see [ADRC Highlights Vol.49](#)), this workshop enriched the debate and developed the possibility for concrete cooperation efforts. Along with the increase in damage from natural disasters in recent years, disaster management has become crucially important. In the future, effective use of IT, such as space technology and GIS, will contribute to monitoring disasters, assessing the situation of affected areas, monitoring reconstructing efforts, and finally to the implementation of swift and accurate disaster prevention measures. These disaster management efforts are also related to the promotion of sustainable development.

ADRC has been promoting a satellite application experiment for disaster management in collaboration with the National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA), Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), and the Diamond Air Service (DAS). NASDA gave presentations outlining their *i-Space* project and the cooperative project mentioned above. ADRC announced a new experiment for assessing damage in disaster-affected areas, which is scheduled to take place in Malaysia next year.

During the workshop many issues were raised from the users' viewpoint, such as how to obtain or analyze satellite information at a low price, the provision of information via the Internet, the necessity of standardization for promoting the use of data, development of equipment and human resources for image processing, and more. Many cases of disaster assessment were also reported. Based on these points, ADRC is continuing to promote the future of satellite based experiments with other member countries and is also considering methods for providing data and developing human resources.

For further information on this workshop, please contact Mr. Masaru Arakida (arakida@adrc.or.jp).

➤ The 2002 Japan-U.S. Science, Tech. & Space Applications Program (JUSTSAP) Workshop

The 2002 JUSTSAP Workshop was held on the Maui Island, in Hawaii, USA from the 11th to the 15th of November. JUSTSAP is an annual meeting for concerned parties to develop or make professional use of space applications in Japan and the USA. JUSTSAP is annually held in Hawaii, which lies half-way between Japan and mainland America, because the state's government has strongly supported the workshop.

Dr. Tomohiko Hatori, senior researcher of ADRC participated as a co-chairman of the Disaster Monitoring, Management, & Mitigation (DM3) working group, which is one of several JUSTSAP working groups. In addition, DM3 and Satellite Communications (SatCom) WG hosted a joint symposium. ADRC made a presentation on the *i-Space* pilot project

by NASDA, CRL, and ADRC. This is a real time satellite communication system for disaster damage assessment that uses a portable digital video camera and a SatCom antenna mounted on a 4WD car (vehicle-based IP-VSAT).



The delegates of the Joint DM3/SatCom Symposium visited to the Pacific Disaster Center.

A teleconference between Bangkok and Maui, which are separated by 10,000km and have a time difference of 17 hours, was also successfully conducted. In Bangkok, the "UN Regional Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Disaster Management in Asia and the Pacific" was held under the theme of "Using Space Technology for Disaster Management in Asia and the Pacific. This kind of collaboration will become more important to our international cooperation efforts in the future.

Various sessions were held in the Joint DM3/SatCom symposium, including Collaboration via Space Applications, Student Education, Space Policy, Business Models, Fund-raising, and more. One of the main sessions was a simulation of satellite based disaster information sharing in relation to a large oil spill accident. JUSTSAP has decided to continue discussing this scenario. JUSTSAP secretariats in both Japan and the US are now editing the final report of this workshop, including all of the presentation summaries.

For details, please contact Dr. Tomohiko Hatori (hatori@adrc.or.jp).

➤ Second International Disaster Mitigation Cooperation Seminar in Seoul, Korea

The National Institute for Disaster Prevention (NIDP), in conjunction with the Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs (MOGAHA) of the Republic of Korea, organized the Second International Disaster Mitigation Cooperation Seminar in Seoul on November 7th, 2002. The theme of the Seminar was: In Search of Countermeasures to Address Current Unusual Natural Disasters.



Korea suffered severe damage due to torrential rains and Typhoon Rusa in August and September of this year. Many high-ranking government officials and eminent researchers from Korea participated in the seminar to give a report on the damage and the current status of the recovery process. More than 200 central and local disaster managers from all over the country were invited to the seminar.

Speakers invited from abroad included representatives of the US Geological Survey (USGS), Centro Nacional de Prevencion de Desastres (CENAPRED, Mexico), and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR). ADRC introduced the ISDR to the participants on behalf of the ISDR Secretariat. A special message from Mr. Salvano Briceno, Director of ISDR, was sent to the seminar.

For more information, please contact Dr. Dugkeun Park, Senior Analyst, NIDP (dr_park@mogaha.go.kr) or Ms. Etsuko Tsunozaki, ADRC (tsunozaki@adrc.or.jp).

If you have comments or requests for this Newsletter, please write to ADRC at the address on the right.

Published by : [Asian Disaster Reduction Center \(ADRC\)](#)
3rd Floor, 1HD Bld. 1-5-1, WAKIHAMAKAIGAN-DORI, CHUO-KU, KOBE
651-0073, JAPAN E-mail: editor@adrc.or.jp Phone: +81-78-230-0346