

17 * Session of the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee (ICC) on Regional Space Applications Programmed for Systalisable Development (RESAP) 25-27 Nouember 2013 Bangkok

Implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action for Applications of Space Technology and GIS for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development, 2012-2017



Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division **ESCAP**



1. Background

- Formulated and adopted during the Intergovernmental Meeting Intergovernmental Meeting on Asia-Pacific Years of Action for Applications of Space Technology and the Geographic Information System (GIS) for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development, 2012-2017 18 December 2012, Bangkok, Thail
- Endorsed through ESCAP resolution 69/11: Implementation of Asia-Pacific Plan of Action for Applications of Space Technology and the Geographic Information System for Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development, at the 69th session of ESCAP Commisssion,1 May 2013, Bangkok, Thailand.
- The Asia-Pacific Plan of Action focuses in two major areas:

 - -Towards Disaster Risk Reduction; -Towards Sustainable Development.
- . Efforts should be made by stakeholders at:
 - -Regional and Subregional Level;
 - -National Level.



2. Key points of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action

- ESC AP secretariat will take the lead of the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action.
- Member States propose a Ministerial Conference in 2015 to evaluate progress
 made and provide further guidance for the successful implementation of the
 Asia-Pacific Plan of Action and to build stronger political support and ownership
 among all stakeholders. Regional Cooperation should be strengthened by
 enhancing networking and harmonization among the relevant initiatives.
- The secretariat should make concrete efforts to harmonize the various initiatives by deepening cooperation on space and GIS applications, particularly at the regional level, in order to foster synergies and reduce duplication.
- Arrangements should be made for regular sharing of programmes of work, as well as cross participation, joint delivery of capacity building and other activities.
- Information exchange and the sharing of good practices in space and GIS for DRRM should be enhanced and facilitated.
- Capacity building efforts should be addressed collaboratively with regional initiatives, partners and key stakeholders to enhance its effectiveness, foster synergies and address capacity gaps.



PRIO+20 De Riture 7 Priority Areas

- green jobs and social inclusion
- energy access, efficiency and sustainability
- Food security & sustainable agriculture
- sound water management
- sustainable cities
- sustainable management of the oceans
- improved resilience and disaster preparedness

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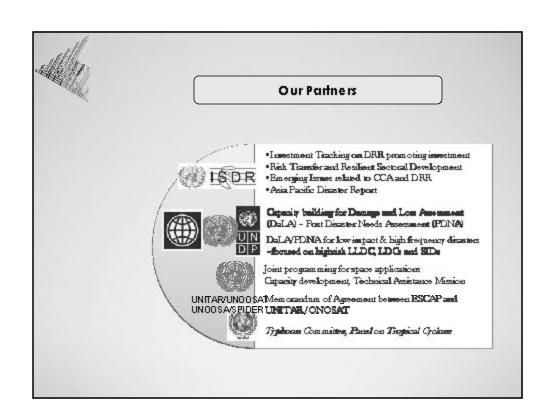
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3. Harmonize and enhance existing regional initiatives

- Enhance collaboration within space related UN agencies and regional nitiatives, including UNITAR/UNOSAT UN-SPIDER, UNISDR, UNICCD, OCHA, the Charter, APSCO, Sentinel Asia, RIMES and AIT, pool expertise and resources at the regional and sub-regional levels and share good practices and lessons.
- Singed MOA between ESCAP and UNITAR in 2013 to establish strategic partnership.
- Guidebook
 - Compiles relevant information of regional and international organizations and agencies that work in DRR, space applications and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific.
 - -Their mission, geographical coverage, contact information, ongoing and upcoming projects and programmes of work, among others, are included.
- Calendar of Events
 - -Shows the past, on-going and up-coming DRR, space applications and sustainable development related meetings and projects of the related organizations and agencies between 2012 and 2017.





Findings of the investigation

The areas of expertise of the international and regional organizations and agencies was developed in order to identify opportunities for collaboration and synergies.

Based on the main needs of the Plan of Action

- Capacity building, education networks and training
- Knowledge, information and data sharing (including good practices and lessons learned)

Considering the main areas of work of the organizations

- Disaster monitoring, weather and climate forecast and early warning systems.
- Disaster risk reduction and management
- Environmental conservation and natural resources management
- Space and geographic information system applications
- Sustainable development (including poverty eradication, food security and urban planning)
- Information and communications technologies (ICT)



Communicating with regional and international organizations and agencies

- The Guidebook, Calendar of Events and areas of expertise were sent for the revision of the following agencies and institutions:
- ADPC, ADRC, APRSAF, APSCC, APSCO, AHA Centre, CSSTEAP, CGIAR, GIC – AIT, GEO, ICIMOD, RIMES, SOPAC, SAARC – DMC, FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UN-GGIM, UNITAR, UNOSAT, UNISDR, UNOOSA, UN-SPIDER and WMO.
- In general, these initiatives were well received and the liaison contacts recognized the secretariat's efforts in their elaboration.
- APRSAF, APSCO, GEO, UNEP, UNOSAT and UN-GGIM provided suggestions and feedback. The areas of expertise and key information were confirmed and updated.
- The FAO and ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance confirmed their areas of expertise.
- There have been communication with CGIAR, GIC- AIT, CIMOD, SOPAC, UNESCO, UNISDR and WMO. Some of which have agreed to send feedback in late November or early December.



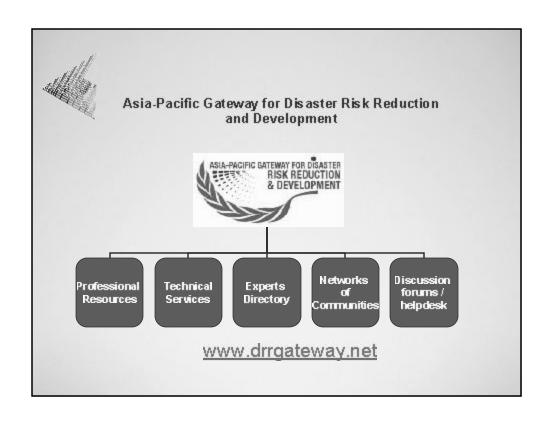
Way forward (2013 - 2014)

- The Guidebook is to be finalized in cooperation with the relevant agencies and organizations; and transformed into a publication which will be disseminated in 2014. This will contribute to information sharing of programmes of work and common areas of expertise; and will enhance collaboration among DRR, space applications and sustainable development organizations and agencies within Asia and the Pacific.
- The Calendar of Events is to be regularly updated.
- These initiatives enhance information sharing, improve communication, and ultimately harmonize DRR, space applications and sustainable development initiatives at the regional level.



4. Enhance capacity-building and service

- Promoting the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development (RESAP) to enhance the capacity of the member States.
- Regional support to disaster-affected countries for disaster response, relief and impact assessments.
- Operationalization of the Regional Cooperative Mechanism for Drought Monitoring and Early Warning.
- Organize training workshops on space and GIS applications for DRR and SD.
- Facilitate the establishment and use of the geo-referenced information system for DRR (Geo-DRM) in CSNs.



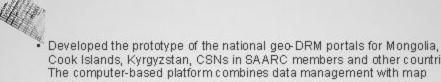




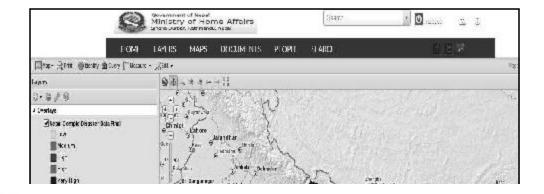


ESCAP initiative: Improving disaster risk preparedness in the Asia-Pacific region

- ESCAP has embarked on a UNDA project entitled "Improving disaster risk preparedness in the ESCAP region".
- Aims to support the establish and use geo-reference/geospatial information at national level and strengthen the capacity of governments of CSNs in accessing up-to-date and accurate socioeconomic data with satellite imagery in disaster-affected areas.
- Enhances the capacity of ESCAP member states towards managing the disaster risks more efficiently and effectively, and reduce losses, and build resilience to hazards through the use/sharing of standardized geospatial information among and within the countries.



- Cook Islands, Kyrgyzstan, CSNs in SAARC members and other countries.
 The computer-based platform combines data management with map
 display, allowing planners and emergency managers to graphically
 display hazard impact areas, and relate them to people and property at
 risk.
- Promote the collaboration and partnership with UNOSAT, UNISDR, UNDP, UNOCHA and subregional organizations (SAARC DMC, ASEAN AHA, SOPAC), to develop geo-DRM portal based on existing knowledge networks.
- Capacity development activities: more than 200 decision makers, project managers and practitioners have been trained in last two years.
- Provided technical assistance to Mongolia, Cook Islands for customizing the geo-portal. More will be conducted in Kyrgyz stan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Fiji in early 2014.



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