** March 2021 News from Sentinel Asia Project Office **

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2. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for making EORs to Sentinel Asia established!
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1. **[News]** Latest Emergency Observation of Disasters (as of 29 March)

(1) **(Additional Information)** Flood, Landslide and Strom in Philippines
(Outline which already informed as February 2021 News)

Tropical Storm "Auring" (international name: Dujuan) hit the Philippines on 21 February 2021, which induced floods and landslides. CNN Philippines reported that 2,000 families were already evacuated, and rice fields in the town were also submerged in flood, with damage to agriculture estimated.

Manila Observatory (MO) made an Emergency Observation Request (EOR) to Sentinel Asia on 21 February. This EOR was escalated to the International Disaster Charter. MO assumed the role of Project Manager (PM) for this Disasters Charter activation. The information on the latest response by Sentinel Asia is available from the following link.

https://sentinel-asia.org/EO/2021/article20210221PH.html

(Additional Information)

Among Data Provider Nodes (DPNs), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), National Applied Research Laboratories (NARL) and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) provided their observation data. Among Data Analysis Nodes (DANs), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Manila Observatory (MO) provided their VAPs.
Satellite image (RESOURCESAT-2 AWiFS) provided by ISRO

Satellite image (FORMOSAT-5) provided by NARL
Satellite image (ALOS-2 PALSAR-2) provided by JAXA

Value Added Product by AIT
2. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for making EORs to Sentinel Asia established!

The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for making Emergency Observation Request (EOR) to Sentinel Asia were established in Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam in March 2021. The establishment of SOPs is the achievement made through online workshops aimed at better use of Sentinel Asia’s EOR mechanism for each country’s following stakeholders.

- For Myanmar (4 February): DDM, DMH, AHA Centre, AIT, ADRC, and JAXA
- Thailand (18 February): ADPC, GISTDA, DDPM, AIT, ADRC, and JAXA
- Viet Nam (1 February): MARD, MONRE, VAST/STI, AIT, ADRC, and JAXA
The common highlights of each SOP include, inter alia,
(i) the prior definition of organizations primarily responsible for making EORs in case of natural disasters
(ii) the prior definition of criteria under which the organizations (i) above will make EORs on “in principle” basis
(iii) support by international organizations including ADRC to make EORs on behalf of the organizations (i) above, in case EORs are not made promptly or in an opportune time
(iv) the easy and real-time provision of local information on the disaster via web-based mobile application developed by AIT
(v) the institutionalized use of Global Satellite Mapping of Precipitation (GSMaP) for monitoring (reference information for making EORs)

In accordance with these SOPs, in case of natural disasters, stakeholders of each country will be able to make emergency observation requests to Sentinel Asia promptly, and utilize the information provided by Sentinel Asia for better response and recovery in an interactive manner. Likewise, the Sentinel Asia community will be able to provide better and effective support than before.

This is one of the good examples of Sentinel Asia which is mandated to address the entire disaster management cycle, and it is a significant contribution to the Sendai Framework Priority 4 (Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction) as well. This joint achievement has significantly enhanced the value of Sentinel Asia.
3. [Information]
Sentinel Asia has uploaded the list of "ALL" emergency observation responses (over 300!) on the Sentinel Asia web portal.

https://sentinel-asia.org/EO/EmergencyObservation.html

You can browse, all VAPs (estimated flood maps and others provided by DANs), and thumbnails of satellite images on the site. It would be great if they could help you understand our work, operation and efforts.

4. How to send Emergency Observation Request

JPT member organizations are entitled to send Emergency Observation Request (EOR) for disasters in the Asia-Pacific region. Please refer to https://sentinel-asia.org/e-learning/Emergency_Observation_Request.html

EOR Order Desk:
Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)
HP: http://www.adrc.asia/
E-mail: sarequest@adrc.asia
FAX: +81-78-262-5546,
TEL: +81-78-262-5540

5. Using Sentinel Asia Operation System, OPTEMIS

The Sentinel Asia launched new operation system, OPTEMIS. Please refer to the website how to create the account of OPTEMIS. https://sentinel-asia.org/e-learning/Emergency_Observation_Request.html

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