

## \*\* February 2026 News from Sentinel Asia Project Office \*\*

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Topics:

1. [Event] JPTM 2025 was successfully held in Dubai co-hosted by MBRSC
2. How to send an Emergency Observation Request
3. Using Sentinel Asia Operation System, OPTEMIS

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1. [Event] JPTM 2025 was successfully held in Dubai co-hosted by MBRSC

The 10th Joint Project Team Meeting for Sentinel Asia STEP3 (JPTM 2025) was held on 10-12 February 2026 in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, co-hosted by the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). Sixty-seven participants from 36 organizations gathered.



Participants at JPTM 2025

The meeting started with opening remarks by Mr. Adnan Al Rais, Assistant DG - Space Operations and Exploration Sector, MBRSC, and Ms. Shiho Taguchi, Acting Executive Secretary of Sentinel Asia from JAXA. Mr. Adnan Al Rais highlighted the importance of Sentinel Asia activities for disaster management in addition to serving as a meaningful framework for international cooperation, commenting that Sentinel Asia represents coordination and solidarity. Ms. Taguchi appreciated MBRSC's co-hosting of JPTM2025, the first JPTM in Western Asia. She mentioned that devastating disasters have increased in the Asia-Pacific region. She encouraged the participants to share their experiences, good practices, and new technology during JPTM2025.

The meeting consisted of four sessions, including the UAE Special Session, and 12 training workshops offering opportunities to learn about the studies by Sentinel Asia members. The workshops were conducted under two co-chairs, Dr. Saeed Al Mansoori, Director, Remote Sensing Department, MBRSC, and Ms. Shiho Taguchi.

The Sentinel Asia Secretariat reported on the recent activities of Sentinel Asia and its Steering Committee. New members to Sentinel Asia, including Japan Water Agency (JWA), Japan, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA), Nepal, Toyama University of International Studies (TUNIS), Japan, Eskisehir Technical University, Institute of Earth and Space Sciences (ESTU-IESS), Turkey, and JSC National Company Kazakhstan Gharysh Sapary (KGS), Kazakhstan, introduced their organizations and activities. Ms. Yuki Tanaka reported the establishment of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAE) of Vietnam, merging two Sentinel Asia members in Vietnam, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and Ministry of natural resources and environment (MONRE).

In the special UAE session titled “From Pixels to Preparedness: Satellite Imagery and AI for Disaster Risk Management in the UAE”, six panelists from various UAE organizations who are engaged in disaster management talked about their activities and experiences, with the moderation by Ms. Khadeejah Al Dhanhani, UAE Space Agency (UAESA).



The Special UAE Session

At the user session, the presenters introduced their activities relating to space activities and disaster management, including the promotion of Sentinel Asia.

Ten training workshops were held over two days, and the presenters introduced their activities for Sentinel Asia, shared experiences, and gave lectures including three hands-on training sessions: “Flood Mapping Using SAR Satellite Data in QGIS” by Dr. Surya Deb Chakraborty, MBRSC, UAE; “EVAP Concept Overview and Workflow in QGIS” by Ms. Claire Hung, TASA; and “AI for Resilient Infrastructure: Vision Transformers in Earthquake Damage Mapping” by Ms. Amulya Sri Pulijala, ISRO, India.

More details about JPTM 2025 including presentation materials and a summary of JPTM 2025 are available on the Sentinel Asia website:

<https://sentinel-asia.org/meetings/SA3JPTM10/index.html>

JPTM 2026 is planned to be held in Tokyo, Japan on 16-18 December 2026 with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and JAXA as co-host.

