

Concept Note

How space technology applications contributed to combatting COVID-19 pandemic

Venue: Videoconference via MS Teams, 30 June 2020, 10:30-12:00 hrs. (UTC+7, Bangkok time)

Background:

Space technology applications including satellite remote sensing, telecommunication, navigation and positioning provide far-reaching solutions to pressing issues facing humanity, ranging from health – and notably the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic – education, food security, agriculture, energy, to disaster risk reduction and building resilience. Integrating geospatial data, existing statistics and ground-based information and exploiting new data sources, analytics, processes and tools will be instrumental to deliver timely, reliable and quality information necessary for governments, businesses, communities and citizens to take accountable actions and make evidenced-based decisions. In addition, the space economy is projected to grow while new start-ups disrupt the market, capitalizing on digitalization, the Internet of Things and adding to the spillover benefits of space investments in research and development.

ESCAP, as the secretariat of the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development (RESAP) and the Secretariat of UN-GGIM-AP¹ will organize the above webinar to discuss amongst stakeholders and cooperation partners in space community in the region, regarding how space technology applications and geospatial information can be best utilized to tackle the COVID-19 outbreak and potential future pandemics through enhanced regional cooperation.

The webinar will aim to highlight and share good practices and lessons learned in member States in the Asian and Pacific region and explore how countries and regional organizations can strengthen collaboration to take collaborative actions to address future health related crisis by using space applications.

¹ UN-GGIM-AP: United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) for Asia and the Pacific

Guiding questions:

1. Could you share good practice, tools and innovative technology applications and geospatial information in addressing COVID-19 challenges in your country or in the region?
2. What issues need to be further addressed to overcome the COVID-19 challenges and are there any recommendations to enhance our regional cooperation?

Moderator

Mr. Sanath Panawennage
Co-Chair of ICC-23 on RESAP²
Chief Executive Officer
Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT), Sri Lanka

Opening remark

Ms. Tiziana Bonapace
Director, ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Panelists

1. Thailand: Mr. Pakorn Apaphant
Executive Director
Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), Thailand
2. Indonesia: Ms. Orbita Roswintiarti
Co-Chair of ICC-23 on RESAP
Deputy Chairman for Remote Sensing Affairs, National Institute of Aeronautics and Space (LAPAN), Indonesia
3. Korea: Mr. In Hyun KIM
CEO
Korea Spatial Information & Community (KSIC), Republic of Korea

Groups to be invited

1. National Focal Points of Regional Space Applications for Sustainable Development (RESAP)
2. Government officials of UN-GGIM-AP member countries
3. Regional stakeholders
4. Regional organizations and partners in the Asia Pacific region

² The 23rd session of Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on RESAP

Agenda

3 min	Webinar Introduction (opening)	Mr. Sanath Panawennage Co-Chair of ICC-23 on RESAP CEO of ACCIMT, Sri Lanka
5 min	Welcome Remarks	Ms. Tiziana Bonapace Director, ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, ESCAP
50 min	Presentations by Panelists (each 8-10 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Presentation by Mr. Pakorn Apaphant Executive Director, GISTDA, Thailand b. Presentation by Ms. Orbita Roswintarti Deputy Chairman, LAPAN, Indonesia c. Presentation by Mr. In Hyun KIM CEO, KSIC, Republic of Korea 	Moderator Mr. Sanath Panawennage
20 min	Question and Answer session	Mr. Sanath Panawennage
5 min	Wrap up and Closing Remarks	Mr. Sanath Panawennage

Date and Meeting Mode

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- Meeting mode: Videoconference via MS Teams applications

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