Announcement of Opportunity (AO)
7th Sentinel Asia System (SAS) Operation Training Guidelines for Applicants

1. Introduction
Sentinel Asia is a voluntary basis initiative led by the APRSAF (Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum) to support disaster management activity in the Asia-Pacific region by applying the WEB-GIS technology and space based technology, such as earth observation satellites data.

Sentinel Asia is initially an internet-based, node-distributed information distribution backbone, eventually distributing relevant satellite and in-situ spatial information on multiple hazards in the Asia-Pacific region. The system draws on satellite derived products and images from all available earth observing geostationary, or low-earth orbiting satellites, including meteorological satellites that provide routine data to the region.

The Sentinel Asia system is also to be used by members of Sentinel Asia to 'trigger' dedicated satellite-data acquisitions through their participating and cooperating space agencies during major and minor disasters in their countries.

The Sentinel Asia System is a step-by-step approach, while the Sentinel Asia Step2 System, newly established in March 2010, applies the communication satellite 'Wideband InterNetworking engineering test and Demonstration Satellite (WINDS)', enhancing the GIS functions.

(1) Step1:   Utilisation of earth observation satellite data for disaster management, called "Pilot Project" (2006-2007)

(2) Step2:   Utilisation of satellite communications system besides earth observation satellites (2008-2012)

2. Objective
The purpose of this training is to enable a large number of people involved in disaster management to learn how to utilise the Sentinel Asia Step2 System as well as how to visualise and interpret satellite data obtained through the Sentinel Asia.

In addition, it is expected that feedback from actual users will be gathered through this SAS operation training so that we may reflect them on the Step2 System in order to improve it more effectively.

3. Venue for training
The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Kathmandu, Nepal

4. Qualifications and number of trainees to be accepted
Qualification requirements are as follows:

(1) Those who work in a disaster prevention organisation, a Joint Project Team (JPT) member organisation, or an ARDC member organisation.
(2) Those who wish to operate the Sentinel Asia Step2 System when a disaster happens.
(3) Those who wish to distribute disaster information from Sentinel Asia to appropriate organisations, including those involved in disaster prevention.
(4) This AO will select about **20** trainees by our formal screening procedure.

5. Participation fees

There are 2 conditions of travel and accommodation expenses as follows. All applicants should select the desired condition in Application Form A. In our screening procedure the applicants who select condition A have higher priority than those who select condition B. And in our selection for the applicants who select condition B we also consider the size of their country's economy.

A. Those who do not need the provision of travel and accommodation expenses
Those whose organization will shoulder their all travel expense (airplane ticket, accommodation, per diem (daily allowance), etc) can take part in the training sessions. Training and reference materials, as well as lunch, coffee break and 2 dinner parties, will be provided free of charge.

B. Those who need the provision of travel and accommodation expenses
We will select maximum 20 trainees and provide them with a return airplane ticket, accommodation, and transportation between the airport and the hotel, and between the hotel and the training venue. They shall be responsible for transportation to their local airport. No per diem (daily allowance) will be provided. Training and reference materials, as well as lunch, coffee break and 2 dinner parties, will be provided free of charge.

6. Tentative Contents of Training

This training course consists of the following 5-day sessions. ICIMOD and JAXA will give trainees the SAS training certificate on the successful completion of the course.

(1) Day1
 > Opening ceremony
 > Lecture: Introduction to Sentinel Asia and Step2 System
 > Lecture: Overview of Sentinel Asia Step2 System
 > Lecture: Disaster Management Activity in ICIMOD
 > Hands-on: How to Use Sentinel Asia Step2 System
 > Hands-on: How to Request Emergency Observation

(2)Day 2
 > Lecture: Basic Principle of Optical
 > Lecture: Basic Principle of SAR
 > Lecture or Hands-on from DPNs/DANs
 > Facility Tour

(3)Day 3
 > Hands-on: ALOS Data Visualization and Analysis (Optical)
 > Hands-on: ALOS Data Visualization and Analysis (SAR)

(4)Day 4
 > Lecture or Hands-on from DPNs/DANs
 > Lecture or Hands-on from DPNs/DANs
 > Lecture or Hands-on from DPNs/DANs

(5)Day 5
 > Lecture or Hands-on from DPNs/DANs
 > Closing Ceremony

7. Application Procedure

Stage-1: Application Guideline

(1) Language and Format
  > English, Microsoft Word or Text format (A4 size)

(2) Application Form (Form A)
  > Your personal information
  > Description of the organisation and structure of disaster management in your country.
  > A letter of reference from your division head
  > Your background history
  > A copy of your passport

(3) Thesis (Form B)
The essay shall answer the following two questions in 1000 words: "What kind of serious natural disaster do you have in your country?" and "What kind of satellite data and satellite technology do you wish to utilise in order to prevent or overcome natural disasters?"

The thesis shall consist of the following structures.
  > Background
  > Main Body
  > Exact Future Plan

The documents relevant to our Kathmandu training sessions (Forms A and B) shall be submitted to MediAtelier, Inc, an official JAXA contractor, by e-mail no later than the 17thth of December, 2010.
E-mail: sentinel.asia@mediatelier.com

Stage-2: Interview (by telephone)
  > Evaluate the English language skills of each candidate.

The screening procedure conducted by the Sentinel Asia Secretariat, including the JAXA Headquarters and MediAtelier, is composed of Stage-1 and Stage-2. The Secretariat will notify individually the result of the screening process.

8. Schedule (Tentative)
(1) The 17th of December, 2010: the submission deadline
(2) The 20th of December, 2010 to the 23rd of December, 2010: Telephone interviews with candidates.
(3) The result of the screening process will be notified to all applicants by the 14th of January, 2011.
(4) The 28th of February, 2011 to the 4th of March, 2011: The 5-day training sessions

9. Point of Contact
MediAtelier, Inc. (an official JAXA contractor)
Address: K.T. Bldg. 3F, 1-26-30, Higashi, Shibuya-ku,
Tokyo 150-0011 JAPAN
Tel: +81-3-5469-5644
Fax: +81-3-5469-5592
E-mail: sentinel.asia@mediatelier.com

Application Form
7th Sentinel Asia System Operation Training

Name	
Title / Position	
Section / Department	
Organisation (URL)	
Address	
Country	
TEL. (Office, Mobile)	
FAX.	
E-mail	
Condition of travel and accommodation expenses	A. Those who do not need the provision of travel and accommodation expenses B. Those who need the provision of travel and accommodation expenses

List of Attachments
1. Description of the organisation and structure of disaster management in your country
2. A letter of reference from your division head
3. Your background history
4. A copy of your passport

The contents of the essay
The essay should answer the following two questions in 1000 words

"What kind of serious natural disaster do you have in your country?" and "What kind of satellite data and satellite technology do you wish to utilise in order to prevent or overcome natural disasters?"

Your name and organisation

1. Background

2. Main body

3. Future Plan