

WORKSHOP EVALUATION

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INTRODUCTION

The Training Workshop (RA II) on Satellite Remote Sensing & GIS Applications in Agricultural Meteorology, was co-sponsored by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific (CSSTEAP), the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) and the Space Applications Centre (SAC).

The Commission for Agricultural Meteorology (CAgM) of WMO recognizes that training of technical personnel to acquire, process and interpret the satellite imagery is a major task. This training workshop was organized in response to the recommendations of the CAgM session in Ljubljana, Slovenia in 2002 with the objective of helping the participants from the Asian countries in learning new skills and updating their current skills in satellite remote sensing and GIS applications in agricultural meteorology.

Sixteen participants from thirteen Asian countries, including Bangladesh, China, India, Kazakhstan, Lao PDR, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand and the United Arab Emirates participated in this training workshop.

FORMAT FOR THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

The training workshop was designed for agrometeorologists from Asia with little or no background in satellite remote sensing and GIS applications in agricultural meteorology.

The workshop started with a thorough introduction to various aspects of satellite and remote sensing along with practical exercises on the digital analysis of satellite data. This was followed by lectures on digital image processing,

fundamentals of GIS and Geopositioning Systems (GPS) and spatial data analysis and practical demonstration of GIS software.

The participants were then introduced to both theoretical and practical aspects of retrieval of agrometeorological parameters using satellite remote sensing data. This was followed by a lecture on remote sensing and GIS application in agro-ecological zoning.

Remote sensing and GIS are very useful tools in crop growth and productivity monitoring and simulation as well as assessment and monitoring of droughts, floods, water and wind induced soil erosion. Lectures were given on all these aspects followed by practical demonstrations.

Participants were then introduced to satellite applications in weather forecasting, agro-advisory services, desert locust monitoring, forest fire and degradation assessment.

WORKSHOP EVALUATION

In order to facilitate the evaluation of the Seminar and help obtain feedback from the participants, an evaluation form was circulated on the final day. A summary of participant evaluation of the Seminar is shown in Table 1. About 94% of the participants felt that the programme met the expressed objectives of the workshop. The quality of the workshop programme was rated by 100% of the participants as being very good to good. Sixty two percent of the participants rated the workshop as excellent while 19% rated it as very successful.

