

Message from President of RESTEC

I am very happy to have this "RESTEC e-news" launched.

JICA training seminar has been organized every year since 1977, two years after RESTEC was established until last year, with a total of 428 participants from 56 overseas countries. Every time participants were chosen from relevant organizations of each country for promotion of Remote Sensing technology.

I do appreciate the wisdom and effort to have initiated this JICA program such early timing of Japan's history of development of space science and technology in order to share the knowledge and experience using space satellite for Remote Sensing with developing countries worldwide.

JICA is a governmental agency of Japan to help support overseas countries to overcome various difficulties in their developing stage. But it is relatively recent that science and technology related business was officially included in the work scope of JICA. For instance nowadays if a developing country should decide to acquire space satellite as an infrastructure for her development, there is a chance for JICA to support the challenge.

Remote Sensing is advancing daily with the development of satellite and sensor technology. Now we can obtain satellite imageries with much more preciseness, frequencies and without disturbances by cloud or rainfalls. It is up to us how these imageries could be best utilized together with other knowledge and information.

However it is true that even here in Japan we need further effort to promote using satellite imageries whenever and wherever appropriate in replacement of conventional approach. Therefore I call for your attention to our possible cooperation in creating atmosphere for better usage of Remote Sensing technology through various opportunities.

By this "RESTEC e-news" we provide you updated information about Remote Sensing related to Japan with an intention to share the ideas for cooperation among us. I do also hope to get input from you JICA alumni about your experience and current situation.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Kaname IKEDA

President, Remote Sensing Technology Center of Japan

Note;

Mr. IKEDA has been long engaged in Science and Technology Administration in Japan's Government and finished as Deputy Minister for Science and Technology. Having once served as an Executive Director at National Space Development Agency, he was appointed as an Ambassador of Japan to Croatia from 2003 to 2006, then he served as first Director-General of ITER project till 2010, when ITER Organization was established and construction of fusion machine came into full swing, he returned Japan and found assignment at RESTEC.