
Second Announcement**The 9th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium****Earth Observations Supporting the Implementation
of the SDGs in the Asia Pacific Region****Tokyo, Japan, 11 – 13 January 2017**

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), it is my pleasure to announce that the 9th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from 11 to 13 January 2017. The Symposium is being organized by Japan GEO and the GEO Secretariat, with the support of Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).

This year's Symposium will address the theme of "Earth Observations Supporting the Implementation of the SDGs in the Asia Pacific Region" under the GEO 2016-2025 Strategic Plan endorsed by the GEO Mexico City Ministerial Declaration in November 2015. The Symposium will focus on responses and contributions to the societal needs and partnerships for the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and related international frameworks such as the Paris Agreement, and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Each country will report on progress made in implementing GEOSS since the last Asia-Pacific Symposium in China. Parallel sessions are being organized which focus on the following topics:

- GEOSS Asian Water Cycle Initiative (AWCI);
- Asia-Pacific Biodiversity Observation Network (AP-BON);
- The GEO Carbon and GHG Initiative;
- Ocean and Society in the AP region; and
- Agriculture and Food Security (GEOGLAM).

The Symposium includes plenary sessions for summaries and report-outs from the parallel sessions, and for discussion of ideas regarding future collaboration in contribution to the SDGs. Detailed agenda is now available here:

<https://geoss-ap-symposium9.org/program.html>

(Note that further update of the agenda will be made on the website)

The Symposium will take place at the Tokyo International Exchange Center, Plaza Heisei in Tokyo. An agenda and details on registration, hotels and related matters will be available on the Symposium website at:

<http://www.geoss-ap-symposium9.org/>

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr Osamu Ochiai (oochiai@geosec.org) or please feel free to contact the Symposium Secretariat in Japan at:

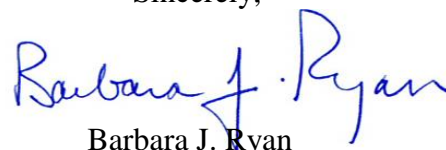
The 9th GEOSS AP Symposium Secretariat
(Remote Sensing Technology Center of Japan)
E-mail: geoss-ap9@restec.or.jp
Fax: +81-3-5777-1580

For your information, there will be a workshop following the symposium which is being co-organized by the University of Tokyo Integrated Research System for Sustainability Science (IR3S), ICSU World Data System, the Future Earth and GEO on Earth Observation in support of the Sustainable Development Goals – The case of urban areas in Asia, at the Science Council of Japan from 16th to 18th January, 2017. For more information, please visit below website for your interest to participate:

<http://en.ir3s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/meeting/2016/2117/>

We look forward to seeing you in Tokyo.

Sincerely,



Barbara J. Ryan
GEO Secretariat Director