Space-based Earth Observations

- Powerful Tool for Disaster Risk Reduction -

Kiyoshi Higuchi

Senior Vice President

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency





Features of Space Technology

2. Robustnessæger a disestetitive

✓ Becyazordstight, shlaveeiatlog matria bility

✓ Not affected by disasters

Coverage: 10km

Three communications satellites can Every 90 minutes

Coverage: 100km



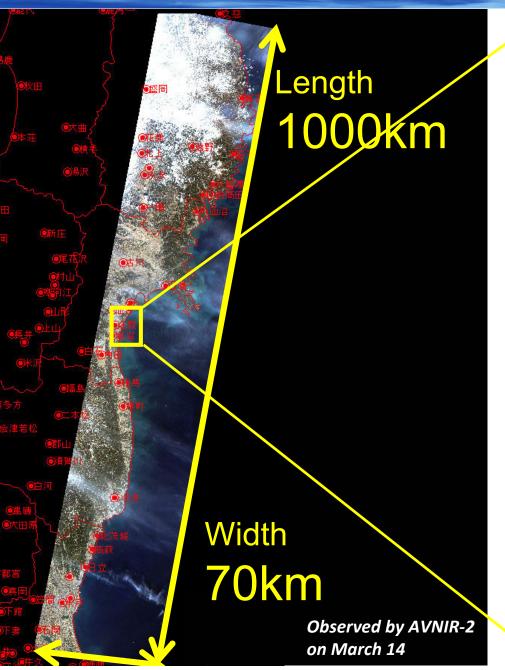
Features of Space Technology

More importantly,

- 4. Monitoring and understanding processes and phenomena of the Earth system
 - ✓ enabling understanding and predicting local disaster risks by the knowledge



Wide-area Monitoring on 14 March, 2011



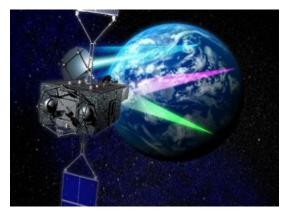




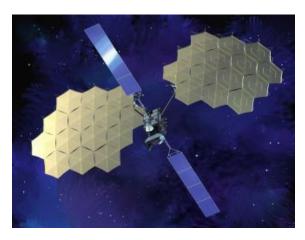
Robustness over disasters

After Great East Japan Earthquake, satellites provided

- TV conferences services to local governments
- Internet access for local residents
- High-speed internet communications satellite: WINDS
- Mobile communications test satellite: ETS-8



WINDS 'Kizuna'



ETS-8 'Kiku-8'



Constraints of Space-based Earth observation for DRR

- Satellite data is unique, but not enough
 - necessary to be combined with other data and information
 - needs to be transformed into information easy to understand.

- Timely satellite data delivery is not guaranteed
 - A single satellite can not provide timely data delivery in response to disasters.



Commitments of Space-based Earth observations

- Int'l Charter and Sentinel Asia
 - Space agencies provide timely and easy-to-understand information through the International Charter and the Sentinel Asia.
- GEO (Group on Earth Observations) and CEOS (Committee on Earth Observation Satellites)
 - Space agencies support understanding disaster risks on global and local scales through GEO and CEOS projects.
 - CEOS is willing to provide coordinated satellite observation plan in response to requirements of Disaster Management community.