

IAF EARTH OBSERVATION SYMPOSIUM (B1)
Interactive Presentations - IAF EARTH OBSERVATION SYMPOSIUM (IP)

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BREADTH OF INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION, DEPTH OF LOCAL CAPACITY - A
SUSTAINABLE SPACE STRATEGY FOR VIETNAM

Abstract

Vietnam - one of Southeast Asia's leading spacefaring regions - has made significant strides in space progress since 2006. Space-based efforts are chiefly targeted at satellite image processing, natural resource management, remote sensing and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping among others. Local-international collaborations take place along three fronts: disaster management, data sharing and training for the space sector. Given the availability of open access data, Vietnam's current state of dependence upon international players - especially Earth Observation (EO) data - is feasible in the short-term. However, investment in locally-driven solutions are still required, taking community norms into account for sustainability in the long-haul.

We would recommend (i) parallel capacity-building by local agencies to raise awareness of available disaster-related information, access to data (via apps or improved telecommunications, such as Wifi in rural areas) (ii) moving towards building a commercial satellite to collect higher-resolution local data in addition to relying on open-access data (iii) improved public local education of the necessity of science and space, complementing specialised technical training of scientists.